

Loans to jobless for furniture may replace grants

Rent support cut proposed by Treasury

By David Hencke,
Social Services Correspondent

A disagreement has broken out between Treasury and the Department of Health and Social Security over proposals to make Britain's three million unemployed pay part of their rents, mortgages and rates out of their weekly unemployment and supplementary benefits.

Confidential proposals by the Treasury say that 20 per cent — equivalent to between £4 and £10 a week — of all rents and rate bills should be met by claimants out of their unemployment and supplementary benefits. At present, unemployed people have all their housing bills met by housing benefit.

It is also being suggested that loans rather than benefits should be given to the unemployed and single parents to buy beds, cookers, and other essential furniture.

The proposals are understood to be unacceptable in their present form to Mr Norman Fowler, Social Services Secretary. He is expected to contest them when the Cabinet discusses his reforms of the welfare state tomorrow.

There is also objection from Mr Andrew Rowe, chairman of the Housing Benefit review set up by Mr Fowler, as they conflict with the final housing benefit reform.

Details of the proposals, contained in a discussion paper, have been obtained by Mr Gordon Brown, Labour MP for Dunfermline East. They show that there are four alternative proposals put forward with tenants paying 5, 10, 15 or 20 per cent of their rent and rates. The Treasury is understood to favour 20 per cent, while the Department of Health favours 5 per cent.

The principle behind the idea is that all tenants and home-owners, even when they are out of work, should pay some small contribution. This proposal is also supported by Directors.

The same principle is also being applied in putting forward loans, instead of benefits such as single payments for furniture. This proposal would be linked with the Government's plan to abolish single payments and additional allowances for people on supplementary benefit and would mean people paying back the loan through a small direct debit from their weekly benefit over months or years.

Mr Brown yesterday described the proposals as completely offensive. He said: "The Government is now fully committed to creating a two-tier society with the poor, even when they are on the dole, having to contribute towards their rent and rates and going into debt to buy essential furniture."

"These proposals would create further serious homelessness as people will be evicted because they cannot meet their rent contribution."

He has tabled a series of questions asking for figures from Mr Fowler on the numbers claiming housing benefit and receiving single payments for furniture.

About £4 billion is spent a year on housing benefits. The Government is considering halving these payments to those above the headline. The Treasury proposals are additional to these plans.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

48 die in riots

DEATH toll in the caste riots in Ahmedabad rose to at least 48 after a further night's violence. Page 9.

Rixon out

THE AUSTRALIAN wicket-keeper Steve Rixon yesterday withdrew from the forthcoming tour of England, preferring to play in South Africa. Page 25. Cricket special, page 27.

IRA split

REMOVAL of a member of the IRA's ruling council has made public a dispute over the future direction of the organisation. Page 2.

Striking support

LABOUR councillors yesterday supported a strike by schoolchildren against alleged threats to "conscript" young people into the Youth Training Scheme. Page 2.



"They did offer me something with this all-party pressure group—but I wanted a real job."

Defence danger

NATO's supreme commander believes that there is a danger of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative diverting funds from immediate defence needs. Page 2.

The Guardian

WE apologise to readers in several areas who may not have received a copy of the paper yesterday. Composing room delays in London meant a late start to printing and thus some shortages.

The weather

RATHER cold, with sunny intervals. Details, back page.

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Germany	3.50 dm
Greece	100 dr
Holland	1.80 fl
Italy	200 lire
Malta	250 ml
Norway	170 kr
Sweden	300 kr
Switzerland	3 fr

Kinnock faces pit snub

By Peter Hetherington

Northern Labour Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock faced further pithead criticism of his stand during the coal strike yesterday when miners' delegates at Durham refused to offer him a customary automatic invitation to speak at their annual gala.

Instead, they will ask the county's 11,500 pitmen to decide whether the Labour leader should attend the event, the country's oldest and largest miners' gala—in ballots at Durham's 12 lodges over the next few weeks.

Feelings against the Labour leadership are running so high among some activists that one colliery lodge—Morton—proposed that Mr Kinnock be banned from the gala for life.

That move was dropped at yesterday's meeting, and Durham miners will be asked to consider another resolution from the Herrington lodge, near Sunderland. It states: "Mr Kinnock must not be invited to the 1985 gala because of his unacceptable attitude... during the miners' strike."

The country's leadership is to make an undisclosed recommendation accompanying the resolution.

A decision to snub Mr Kinnock would break a 102-year tradition at the gala.

The attitude of some NUM activists in Durham has already been criticised by the Durham City Labour Party. Its secretary, Mr John Ward, said last night that he was disappointed by yesterday's decision, but reiterated that the move from the Morton lodge had been dropped.

"All the miners I have spoken to say they want nothing to do with this. The fact that they should even consider this motion was perhaps regarded as a snub by some, considering the help we had given the miners during the dispute."

Left jostles Owen towards victory in 3-party efforts

By Ian Aitken

and Alan Travis

Social Democratic Party leader, yesterday won a significant advance towards political recognition of a three-party system at Westminster after a bizarre demonstration by leftwing Labour MPs against his attempt to open a debate on trade union democracy.

This was the outcome of some 45 minutes of uproar in the Commons as the MPs sought to prevent him from opening one of the first debates allocated to the SDP/Liberal Alliance under a new dispensation about the share-out of parliamentary time between the Opposition parties.

The uproar led to a 15-minute suspension of the Commons after leftwing backbenchers had blatantly sought to prevent Dr Owen from securing his seat on a bench usually occupied by the SDP.

Some Labour frontbenchers — albeit junior ones — then attempted physically to prevent Dr Owen reaching the Opposition despatch box, the traditional preserve of ministers and official Opposition spokesmen, to deliver his speech.

The confrontation was resolved last night after talks between the Alliance, the Government and the Labour front benchers.

It now seems certain that a Commons Select Committee on Procedure will examine the entire question of the status of third parties in the Commons including even the entitlement of people like Dr Owen to speak from the despatch box.

The Labour blockade of the SDP bench below the gangway led to nearly 10 attempts by Dr Owen to speak from the despatch box. He was jostled and elbowed by Labour MPs before the sitting was suspended by the deputy Speaker.

Sketch, page 2; BBC "distortion," page 6

for a cooling off period. Eventually, he spoke from his own seat — by then cleared by the Labour group — and moved the Alliance motion on trade union ballots.

The blockade began when 10 MPs, all members of the Campaign group took over the bench before a division on a 10-minute rule bill. During the division, in which MPs had to go to vote, a further half-dozen Labour MPs enabled a shift in the system to be operated so that the SDP bench was occupied throughout the vote. Dr Owen and Mr Ian Wigglesworth, the SDP's economics spokesman, looked on in disgust.

When the business resumed after the vote there was a series of points of order during which Mr Dennis Skinner, the Labour MP for Bolsover,

claimed that seats could only be reserved if MPs attended prayers before the business began and asked that Dr Owen should sit on the Conservative benches, given his views on trade unions and ballots.

Sir Kenneth Lewis, a Conservative backbencher, suggested he take a seat in the members' gallery above a Commons clock.

Mr Harold Walker, the deputy Speaker, was caught by Commons procedure under which he could not intervene to direct people about where to sit in the chamber.

Dr Owen moved from the Opposition gangway to the Opposition front bench, and as he tried to begin his speech from the despatch box he was elbowed away by Mr John Prescott, the shadow employment spokesman.

The SDP leader made a further attempt to address the Commons from the despatch box but was prevented by Mr Kevin McNamara's legs, which were stretched out with his feet on a table.

Amusement began to give way to despair when Mr Brian Sedgemore, the Labour MP for Hackney South, said he was issued because he obviously believed that he was the leader of the Opposition.

MPs continually asked the deputy speaker for a ruling on whether Dr Owen could speak from the despatch box. He said:

Turn to back page, col. 7

British cities vie for 1992 Olympics

By John Rodda

Three British cities want to stage the Olympic Games of 1992 and are preparing to compete against six foreign contenders.

Sir Alan Traill, the Lord Mayor of London, confirmed yesterday that the City of London had told the British Olympic Association that it would make a bid. He expects to call a meeting next week of people who could be expected to work out ways of funding the exercise.

Birmingham also announced its bid yesterday and said that it was spending £10,000 on a feasibility study, with plans to announce Nottingham and Leicester, Manchester has been working for three months on its presentation.

The cities will make their applications to the association and the association's selection will go forward to the International Olympic Committee with Government support required under the Charter of the IOC.

The IOC will make its decision in October, 1986. The other six candidates are: Barcelona, Amsterdam/Rotterdam, Paris, Belgrade, New Delhi and Brisbane.

Swift response, page 26

Legal life case costs BBC £1m

By Aileen Ballantyne

The BBC yesterday agreed to pay record costs and damages estimated at over £1 million over Esther Rantzen's "That's Life" programme.

A court case which has rivalled the BBC's Bleak House serial for its length, complexity and profitability to the legal profession, the corporation has agreed to pay £75,000 in damages to Dr Sidney Gee, a Harley Street street medicine expert, and court costs estimated at more than £1 million.

While BBC2 was running its own serialised version of the longest running legal case in English fiction and the tribulations of Dickens's heroine, Esther, the case against the BBC's own Esther Rantzen was winning its place in the annals of bureaucracy.



Ms Esther Rantzen and Dr Sidney Gee

The jury had to be dismissed because the case became too difficult for them to understand. It took up 87 days

of court sittings—only 14 days short of the record which is held by the Moonies' unsuccessful libel case against the Daily Mail in 1981.

Its leading characters found themselves plagued with ill health. The Queen's Counsel for the BBC, Mr Andrew Rankin, began the case in a wheelchair because of a leg condition; then the BBC's solicitor appeared in court on crutches after a leg operation; the judge, Lord Justice Croom-Johnson, got influenza; a juror was taken ill; and a court usher collapsed in court, halting that day's session.

The case ended yesterday was brought against the BBC, Ms Rantzen and two members of the "That's Life" team.

The BBC eventually realised that, like Dickens's case of

Jarndyce and Jarndyce dragging its "driest length before the court," going on would be "perennially hopeless."

Mr Rankin said that all the parties were happy that a settlement had been reached. If the case had gone on, he said, it would have lasted until the end of 1985, "thereby adding to costs which have already reached enormous and burdensome proportions."

Short of the happy occurrence of a spontaneous combustion of the great mounds of accumulated legal documents — Dickens's solution in Bleak House — there was little the BBC, or even the "That's Life" team could do, except pull out with a graceful apology — and hand over damages and what are estimated as the highest costs in English legal history.

Gorbachev says 'hypocritical' US to blame for Geneva deadlock

From Martin Walker
in Moscow and
Hella Pick in London

The Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, wrote off the first round of the Geneva disarmament talks as a failure yesterday in the course of his toughest ever speech on international relations.

The Soviet leader accused the US of hypocrisy at Geneva, of trying to dominate the world by military means, and of seeking to impoverish it for the benefit of the dollar.

In Geneva, where the talks adjourned yesterday with a bilateral commitment to resume on May 30, the chief US negotiator, Mr Max Kampelman, acknowledged that the negotiations had been "difficult."

The US Administration is convinced that Mr Gorbachev is deliberately trying to exploit differences within NATO about space weapons, which are also the main cause of the apparent deadlock in Geneva. Refusing to dramatise the situation, Mr Kampelman insisted that the "first round has served a useful purpose in helping to bring about increased understanding of one another's positions."

But Mr Gorbachev said: "The completion of the first stage of the Geneva talks already gives reasons to say that Washington does not seek agreement with the USSR. This is clear, if only from Washington's general refusal to discuss the prevention of the arms race in space simultaneously with nuclear arms limitation and reduction. It thus violates the accord reached in January on the inter-connection of the three subjects."

"This is to be explained by the fact that certain circles in the US still want to attain the dominant position in the world, especially militarily," he said.

While stressing that he would not like to see a complete breakdown at Geneva, he said it was impossible to reach an agreement on arms disarmament talks — unless one indulges in hypocrisy.

Mr Gorbachev condemned Washington's rejections of Soviet gestures. "Everything is being done to avoid taking positive steps in response — we cannot but find surprising the haste with which the Reagan Administration responds with its standard and customary 'no' to our proposals."

"Let it be absolutely clear that international relations can only be normalised if imperialism abandons its attempts to settle militarily the historical dispute between the two social systems," he said.

Addressing a plenum of the Central Committee, Mr Gorbachev broadened his attack upon US policy in classic Marxist terms. "The US, concentrating in its hands the growing mass of financial and material resources of other countries, is putting them, directly or indirectly, at the service of its giant military programmes," he said.

"The economic expansion of the US is being broadened and stepped up. Manipulations of interest rates, the predatory role of trans-national corporations, political restrictions on trade, all kinds of boycotts and sanctions disorganise the world economy. The exploitation of the developing world is being intensified — and imperialism has stepped up its subversion. Imperialism is trying to take social revenge across a broad front," he said.

Mr Gorbachev's statement reinforced indications that the Soviet leader had been alarmed from the outset of the Geneva talks in March, and also promoted yesterday.

Details, page 8

No secrets trial sequel



CAROL ROBSON (left), one of the three British diplomats expelled by the Soviet Union in retaliation for Britain's action against five Soviet officials in London, was a scientific attaché at the Moscow embassy with a particular interest in Soviet computer developments.

Expulsion of the Soviet diplomats — under the standard euphemism for spying — will not be followed by actions in the courts against British citizens involved in the Russians' activities. Report, back page.



Young Socialists rally under fire from Tories and Liberals

Liverpool's Labour leaders support schoolchildren's action on jobs

By Alan Dunn
A strike by Liverpool schoolchildren tomorrow has been given the full backing of Labour council's education committee. Mr Dominic Brady, the chairman, said that there would be no victimisation of children taking part in a demonstration and rally.



Dominic Brady—regrets disruption

Opposition councillors condemned the rally, which is against government "conscription" into Youth Training Schemes, organised by the Young Socialists to recruit and politicise young people. The march to the pier head will be led by Mr Terry Fields, the Labour MP for Broad Green, who supports the Militant Tendency. It is organised by the Youth Trade Union Rights campaign.

Mr Brady told the committee that he regretted any disruption of education, particularly at a difficult examination

period, whether by teachers or children. But there was a feeling of despair and hopelessness among children who saw their fathers and mothers out of work and their own futures brightened. Reaction against those who created that atmosphere of unemployment was to be expected.

"We say that we believe in and fully support the campaign by the youth trades union movement, but at the same time regret the disruption by the action and any action by teachers or others that interrupt children's education."

A Labour resolution deplored Government plans to "conscribe" youngsters into the Youth Training Scheme and to remove unemployment benefit for school-leavers. It said that the frustration of young people arose from the policies of the Government, which was urged to make resources available to provide real jobs.

Michael Story, said that in his area of Knowsley, only 4 per cent of 4,000 16-year-olds who left school last year had a permanent job. In some areas of the city youth unemployment was as high as 9 per cent.

"To sit back and do nothing would be totally wrong, but I object to a trade union campaign by a collection of young socialists, run by Militant, who are not really concerned about unemployment but are seizing the chance to make rich pickings among young and fertile minds."

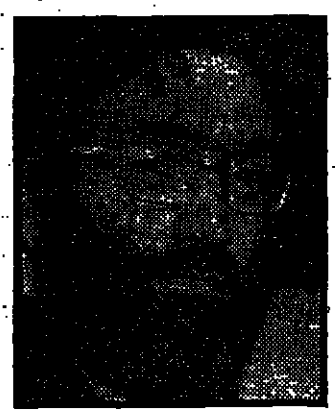
Another Liberal councillor, Mr Neville Chinn, said that children had been approached at school by Young Socialists and told: "If you don't come on the rally we will sort you out." He had reported the matter to the police.

'Many complaints' at race row head's suspension

By John Fairhall
Education Editor
The education minister, Mr Bob Dunn, told the Commons yesterday that the Department of Education had received several complaints that Bradford council acted unreasonably in suspending a head teacher, Mr Ray Honeyford, for allegedly racist criticism of teaching methods. The department was now asking the local authority for comments on the complaints.

Mr Honeyford was suspended from his post at Drummond middle school after writing an article in the Salisbury Review claiming that education of white children was being impaired in predominantly black schools. The school governors will meet tomorrow to consider a vote of no confidence in Mr Honeyford.

Mr Ray Honeyford—magazine article



Open verdict on hanged GCHQ man

By a Correspondent
An open verdict was recorded yesterday on a worker at a Government Communications Headquarters outstation who was found hanged at his home earlier this month. Stephen Oake, aged 35, of Bude, worked for 11 years as a traffic handler at the composite signals organisation station at Morwenstow, Cornwall, an outpost of the GCHQ at Cheltenham.

The North and East Cornwall coroner, Mr George North, said that Mr Oake had been found with his hands tied together in front of him, but he could have done this himself. "It could have been an accident but there is insufficient evidence for me to be certain."

Mr Oake's body had been found on April 8 by his brother-in-law, hanging from a hatch leading to the attic.

Medical evidence showed that death was due to strangulation.

It was said that Mr Oake had no financial problems and seemed happy with his marriage and two children. His widow, Helen, said that her husband had left no note.

Mr George Roberts, officer in charge at Morwenstow, told the coroner that there were no security-related aspects to Mr Oake's death.

£1m diet inquiry

By Rosemary Collins, Agriculture Correspondent

THE GREATER London Council has provided £1 million to set up a food commission to investigate and improve Londoners' diets.

It estimates that 75 per cent of people living in the capital suffer from some form of dietary-related disease during their lives. The London Food Commission's newly-appointed director, Dr Tim Lang, yesterday defined such diseases as "anything from constipation and diabetes to dental caries."

The £1 million has been vested in a charitable trust and is intended to sustain the organisation—with a staff of nine—for five years. It will publicise healthier eating.

Mr Michael Ward, the chairman of the GLC industry and employment committee, said that the cost of treating coronary heart disease in London was £10 million to £20 million a year. "We cannot leave the task of health education to the food companies who spend £13 million a year advertising their products," he said.



Pasta joke: Spitting Image caricatures of Prince Charles feeding uncooked spaghetti to Prince Harry. The puppets were helping to raise money for the Puppet Centre's new home at Covent Garden. Picture by Frank Martin

Pendulum deals 'not British way'

By John Ardill, Labour Correspondent

The "winner takes all" system of pendulum arbitration adopted by Nissan and the engineering union AUEW in their agreement, announced on Monday, comes in for strong criticism in the annual report of the Central Arbitration Committee.

The committee, which provides the manpower for most industrial relations arbitration hearings, suggests that the pendulum system of choosing absolutely between the employers' or union's final position does not cater sufficiently for the complexities of industrial disputes.

The pendulum system is relatively new to this country, having been pioneered in "strike-free" agreements reached mainly between the

tween the offer and claim, this is likely to be the result of an evaluation of a complex of different arguments: ability to pay, cash limits, labour market factors on the one hand, versus comparability, cost of living, going rate arguments on the other.

"In dealing with a complex multi-element claim and offer, with each side offering convincing arguments in some areas, the right answer may be to award differentially. I.e. for the employer on some aspects and the union on others. Simple pendulum arbitration would appear to rule this out."

The report goes on to suggest that pendulum arbitration is part of a procedural change aimed at encouraging both sides to settle differences in negotiation. The aim of enhancing negotiation was entirely laudable and in keeping with the British tradition that the parties should settle their disputes.

Leader comment, page 12

electricians' union EETPU and Japanese electronics firms. It does not permit arbitrators to split the difference between the employer's offer and the union's claim, said to be the British tradition.

Significantly, the AUEW-Nissan agreement provides for a conciliation procedure and allows either party to refuse pendulum arbitration.

In its annual report, published yesterday, the CAC, chaired by Sir John Wood, the Edward Bramley Professor of Law at Sheffield University, rebuts the argument for the pendulum system which claims that traditional arbitrators tend to split the difference between the sides. Careful examination of cases shows that they do not in fact crudely split the difference, the report says.

"Where awards do fall be-

But what if this basic premise is not met and the arbitrators are presented with the difficult task on which the parties remain far apart and which can only be sold by a choice between two extremes? This would be unacceptable—a professional arbitrator needs the opportunity of avoiding the dilemma in which neither of the preferred solutions is without serious flaw."

The report goes on to argue that the CAC should have a role in compulsory binding arbitration is introduced for essential services—a case being pressed on the Government by the Institute of Directors. The CAC could offer breadth of experience which would enable it to deal with a wide variety of issues that might come up for determination.

Dispute holds up code for suspects

By Malcolm Dean

The publication of a code of practice which will set down the rights of suspects to coincide with police powers coming into effect next January is being delayed by a dispute between chief police officers and solicitors.

The code was due to be laid before both Houses of Parliament and debated before Easter, so the police training programmes could begin. But the police and the Law Society disagree over the procedure under which suspects should

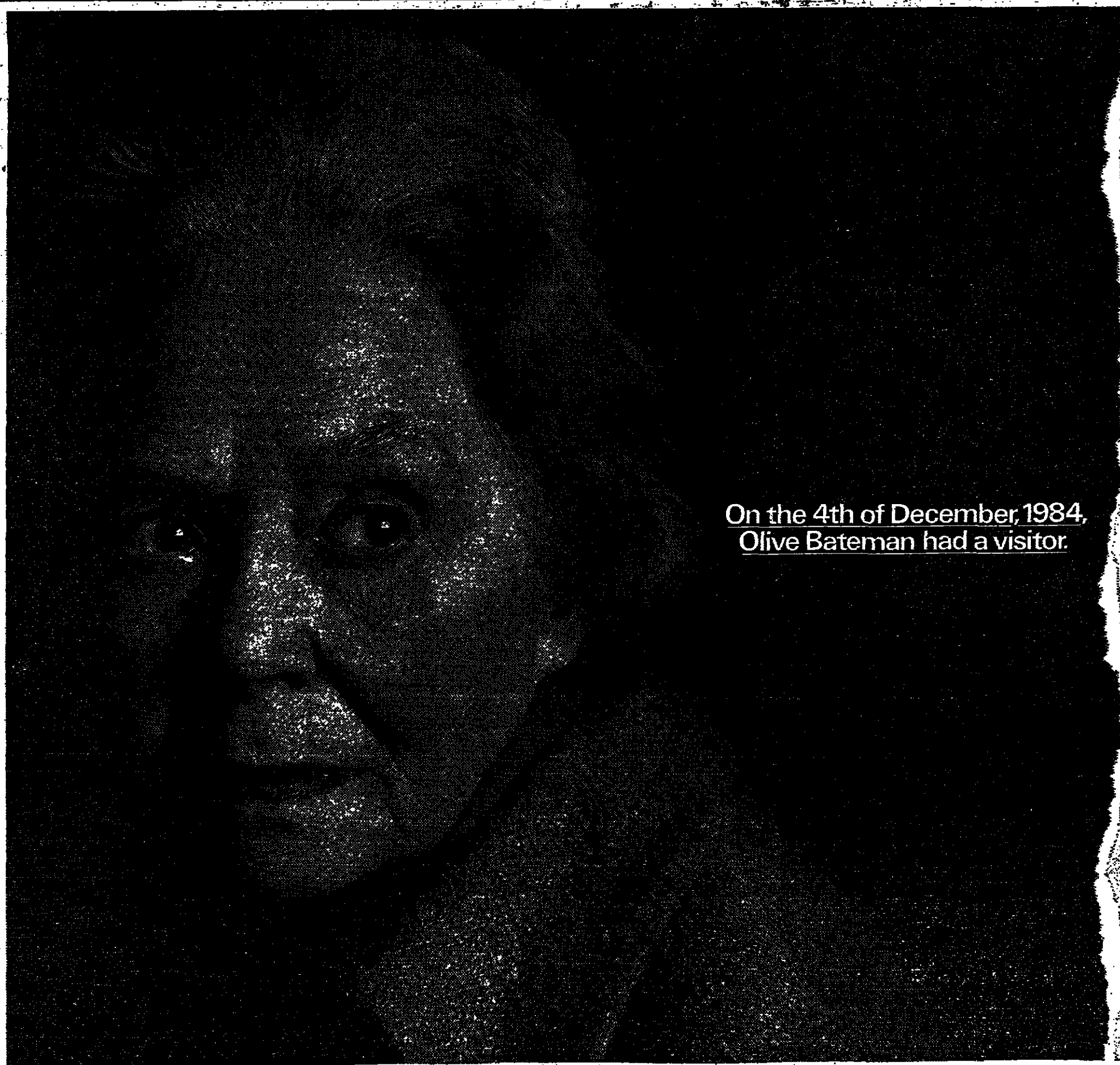
be informed of their right to legal advice.

The Law Society, which represents 40,000 practising solicitors, wants all suspects held in police stations to be provided with cards which will explain their right to legal advice. The chief police officers believe that the cards should be restricted to suspects who have been arrested. They believe that suspects who have gone voluntarily to police stations to help with inquiries should be under no obligation to have a right to legal advice.

No one knows how many suspects are voluntarily to police stations every year, but the Law Society estimates that nine out of 10 who go voluntarily end up being arrested. They believe that the volunteer should have the same protection as those who have been formally arrested.

The new duty solicitor schemes were originally to be restricted to people who had been formally arrested, but the Government agreed during the debate on the 1984 Police Bill to extend the scheme to

volunteers. The Lord Chancellor's Department has financed two pilot duty solicitor schemes at police stations in Birmingham and Northampton this year. Michael Zander adds: "The bill to transfer prosecutions from the police to a prosecution service may inadvertently remove the right to sue for malicious prosecution, according to an article shortly to be published in the Law Society's Guardian Gazette by Mr John Harrison, of the Paddington Law Centre."



On the 4th of December, 1984, Olive Bateman had a visitor.

In itself, the slow breaking of the garden gate was nothing to worry about. Winter is windy, after all.

And the gentle rocking of an empty milk bottle on her doorstep could easily have been the icy country breeze.

But nothing rattles a doorknob quite like a human hand.

Started from a gentle doze in front of a dying fire, Olive clutched the pendant that hung around her neck.

Quickly, she pressed the button. Her Piper Pendant activated her Piper Solo unit. Piper Solo flashed the message to the Control Centre—emergency.

Sharp in the cold night air, the doorknob rattled again.

The Control Centre operator spoke within seconds. "Olive? What's wrong?"

Shrinking back into her armchair, she whispered tearfully. "Help me—there's somebody out there!"

Minutes later, a police Rover screamed to a halt at her door.

The visitor was quick, but not quick enough. One more intruder went to the cells.

Hundreds of thousands of people all over the country use the Piper emergency communications system from Tunstall Telecom.

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F O R • P E A C E • O F • M I N D

'Clawback' will take £1 million from each

Tory shires face grant cuts after council polls

By John Carvel, Local Government Correspondent

Most of the Tory-controlled shire counties face extra cuts in their government grants shortly after the county council elections next month. Berkshire, East Sussex, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Surrey, and West Sussex will each lose more than £1 million as a result of further efforts by the Department of the Environment to keep the grant total to within the Treasury's cash limit. Other prosperous counties will lose by smaller amounts.

The reductions will be announced in a supplementary report to the rate support grant settlement to be published in June or July.

Earlier this month the Government told all English councils that they will lose 1.5 per cent of the grant they expected when they fixed their budgets. It proposes to replace this crude ruling with a more sophisticated adjustment, the result of which will be that councils in areas with high rateable values will lose more and poorer areas will lose less.

The exercise, known as "close-ending" or "clawback," was reported in the *Guardian* on April 4.

Ministers have explained that clawback is an established feature of the grant system, and that the last Labour government also acted at this time of year to prevent councils

claiming more grant than was available.

They have not pointed out, however, that the system changed in 1981, and that the result of the present exercise is that the Government will end up paying out substantially less than the grant cash limit.

Under the new arrangements the Government deducts penalties for overspending councils from the grant pool after deciding how much is available for distribution. This year's penalties are expected to be worth about £400 million.

The result is that the Government will pay out about £3.2 billion instead of the £3.6 billion for which the Treasury budgeted.

Gallery charges 'possible'

By Penny Chorlton

The National Gallery may have to consider reintroducing admission charges if it is to continue to buy paintings on the international art market.

Lord Annan, chairman of the trustees, said yesterday: "The recent reduction in the gallery's purchase grant was so severe that it would no longer be able to acquire paintings other than on an occasional basis, he said."

Although it was policy not to charge admission fees to the three million people who visit

each year, the question was constantly under review.

A report by the gallery's trustees makes the point that the 17 per cent cut in grant from £2.3 million to £2.27 million is in real terms — given that the dollar is the currency in which the international art market deals — is closer to a 33 per cent reduction.

Lord Annan said that while the gallery could no longer even enter the bidding for some works of art it is also suffering from a lack of gifts by individuals.

The trustees called on Lord Gowrie, minister for the arts, to set up a committee to consider what improvements might be made in the tax system to help the funding of museums and galleries.

They draw attention to "the virtual non-existence of tax arrangements in this country to encourage magnanimous individuals to give works of art or sums of money to museums and galleries."

Lord Annan added: "When a museum financed by a local authority makes a purchase in

the sale room it does not pay VAT. But when a national museum does the same it is liable to that tax. When the gallery purchased Picasso's *View of Stadenham* for £567,840 we had to pay £47,840 on top for the buyers' premium and VAT."

If the Government did not form a committee to consider the tax position galleries and museums might take the initiative themselves, he suggested.

● Lord Annan (right): tax anomaly.



Farmers sunk in milk scheme

By Paul Heyland

Farmers and housewives were yesterday counting the cost of their involvement in a cottage industry which has ceased trading temporarily after receiving hundreds of thousands of pounds from investors.

Supporters of Microbionic Farming Enterprises have been shocked to find that milk cultures they have grown for the company as the basis of a famine relief biscuit now lie rotting in a caravan outside MFE's headquarters in west Wales.

Mr Courtney Ferguson, aged 45, the Zimbabwean founder of the company, is believed to be abroad organising additional funds. He had been expected to return last week.

MFE's officers at Cross Hands, Dyfed, failed to open for business this week, and a notice informed investors that Mr Ferguson's continued absence prevented the company from trading for the time being.

MFE has been leasing micro-organisms in £10 units, and at one stage guaranteed a 500 per cent profit for cultures grown in glasses of milk and grated cheese at investors' homes.

Mr and Mrs Leslie Smith, who farm near Llandello, Dyfed, are owed £2,500 for cultures they have returned. "We have another £2,000 worth of cultures to send to the company," said Mrs Frances Smith. "We will feed them to the pig if Mr Ferguson doesn't turn up."

The owner of Gell farm boarding kennels, near Cross Hands, who has been caring for the Ferguson family's alaskan and cat for the past four weeks, has received a letter from them suggesting that the pedigree dog be sold in lieu of boarding fees. Mr Ferguson, his wife, and two children were thought to have flown to the United States.

Ennis Caravan, at Cross Hands, who have been renting premises to Mr Ferguson, say they are owed £1,625.

Office suppliers want to recover furniture worth at most £500 from MFE, and other equipment has been seized by a bailiff.

Mr Ferguson has denied having any connection with similar culture schemes which collapsed in South Africa, where 70,000 creditors owed more than £200 million are awaiting the outcome of liquidation proceedings.

Thatcher will not be drawn on nurses' pay

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

The Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, yesterday challenged the Prime Minister to support a pay award for the nurses which would begin to take them back to their 1980 rates of pay.

His challenge in the Commons followed his pledge to the Royal College of Nursing conference on Monday that Labour would back a 20 per cent phased pay rise over two or three years and a return to 1980 levels at a cost of £660 million.

But Mrs Thatcher refused to be drawn, insisting that she could give no undertakings until the pay review body reports had been considered. She said that her government's record was better than Labour's.

Earlier yesterday Mrs Thatcher was warned that nurses' bitterly resent statements by the Health Minister that any pay settlements above 3 per cent will have to be funded out of services to patients.

The warning was in a letter from Mr Trevor Clay, the general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, to 10 Downing Street, after a unanimous condemnation of "moral blackmail" at the college's

annual conference in Bournemouth.

Mr Clay told the Prime Minister that he expected the pay award to be made by the independent pay board, to be implemented in full. Anything less, he said, "Would be a total abrogation of the pledge given by the Government when the pay board was set up."

The strong language from Mr Clay reflected the views of delegates at the conference and the fact that the organisation relies heavily on public moral outrage rather than industrial action to secure its pay claims.

It also demonstrated growing opposition among many RCN members to government treatment of the National Health Service. At the same conference members overwhelmingly passed resolutions objecting to any further privatisation of health services and to deploring the effect of growing unemployment on the health of children and families.

The motion on privatisation urged the Royal College of Nursing council to oppose any attempts by the Government to increase privatisation within the NHS. Mr Clay said later that the RCN will take a tougher line against any move to introduce contracted out nursing and transport services.



Microbionic Farming Enterprises' quality controller, Mr Islwyn Morris, discussing the situation with supporters of the scheme yesterday. Picture by John Barnes

Owen accuses BBC of distortion

By Seamus Milne

Dr David Owen yesterday accused the BBC of systematic bias in its news programmes, which he contrasted with what he called the "diversity" of the British press.

Its "distorted coverage" of the political parties was a disgrace, he told the 1984 British

Press Awards presentation at the Savoy Hotel, London.

The SDP leader was the guest of honour at the presentation lunch. His outspoken remarks follow his failure to win a High Court order earlier this year which would have required the Broadcasting

Commission to review his complaint that ITN and the BBC treated his party unfairly.

"It is reasonably easy to get your viewpoint across in the diversity of the British press," he said yesterday. "I wish I could say the same for the BBC. The BBC is rapidly losing the respect of a substantial

section of the population, and it had better wake up to the fact."

● The BBC promised in the High Court yesterday not to rebroadcast an interview with Princess Michael of Kent which it copied from TV-am and ran on its Breakfast Time programme.

No tasting

By our Correspondent

Eight water workers in North Wales will no longer have to act as samplers, taking hourly sips to test for taste.

The men at the Bretton plant, which treats water from the river Dee before it is pumped into the mains, protested after a chemical leak into the river last year.

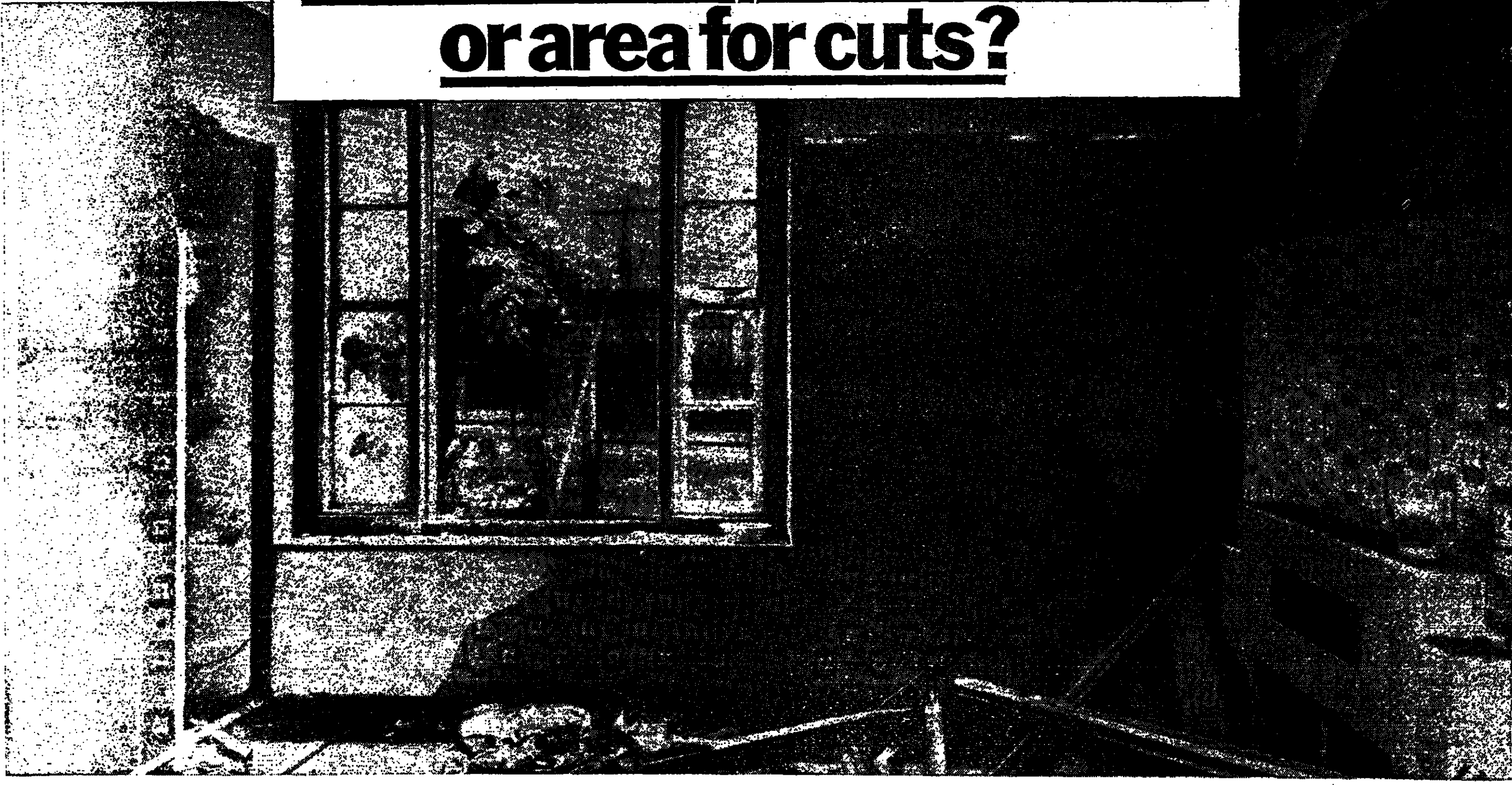
Siege foiled by woman

A housewife who disarmed a heroin addict gunman to end a two-and-a-half-hour siege at an all night chemist's in north-west London was awarded £75 by an Old Bailey judge yesterday.

Judge John Owen, QC, said that Mrs Jacqueline Leverato, aged 33, of Loveday Road, Ealing, had acted with great courage after the man burst into the shop where she was a customer last September.

Mrs Leverato gained his confidence by confessing that she was also a drug addict and injecting the man and herself. Mrs Leverato waited until he became stupefied, then grabbed the pistol.

Room for improvement... or area for cuts?



London still has a huge housing crisis. Tens of thousands are homeless and one home in four is unfit for human habitation, in serious disrepair, or lacking basic amenities such as a bathroom.

Although the very worst conditions are to be found in private sector rented housing, many council homes are now over 50 years old and badly in need of modernisation.

In 1980 the GLC began transferring its homes to the London boroughs and undertook a government-imposed legal

duty to renovate that housing. As a result the GLC is investing in a massive £1,000 million programme of improvement up to 1992.

This programme is the biggest of its kind in the country. It has required the expertise both of the GLC and the private construction industry to deal with the immense problems concerned.

Abolition of the GLC would at best mean a tremendous disruption to the renovation programme. At worst, it could end it altogether. The Government has stated that the London boroughs

will receive the money previously allocated to the GLC. However, during the past five years, the money made available by the Government for public investment in housing in London has been more than halved. Furthermore, a cut of £65 million in housing allocations was hailed as a 'victory' by the Secretary of State.

What price decent housing for Londoners after 1986, with this record?

GLC

Working for London

150-100

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Whether you require instant access to your money or a longer term investment you will have to search hard to beat these two outstanding offers.

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Leicester Building Society		
It all adds up to more from the Leicester.		

*When half-yearly interest is compounded, the gross equivalent to basic rate tax payers are as follows: 9.6% net=13.71% gross; 10.25% net=14.64% gross. Rates are variable. Maximum holding is £250,000 from April 9th, 1985. Leicester Building Society, Leicester LE2 4PE.

GLC
WATER'S

Owen vote-rigging warning

SECRET BALLOTS

By Alan Travis
ALLEGATIONS of ballot-rigging in the Transport and General Workers' Union will run all year unless political fund polls in the unions are conducted by secret postal votes, Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, claimed yesterday.

His opening speech in an Alliance-initiated debate on trade union ballots was delayed by 45 minutes when the Commons was suspended after a move by Labour left-wingers to occupy the SDP's benches in the Commons.

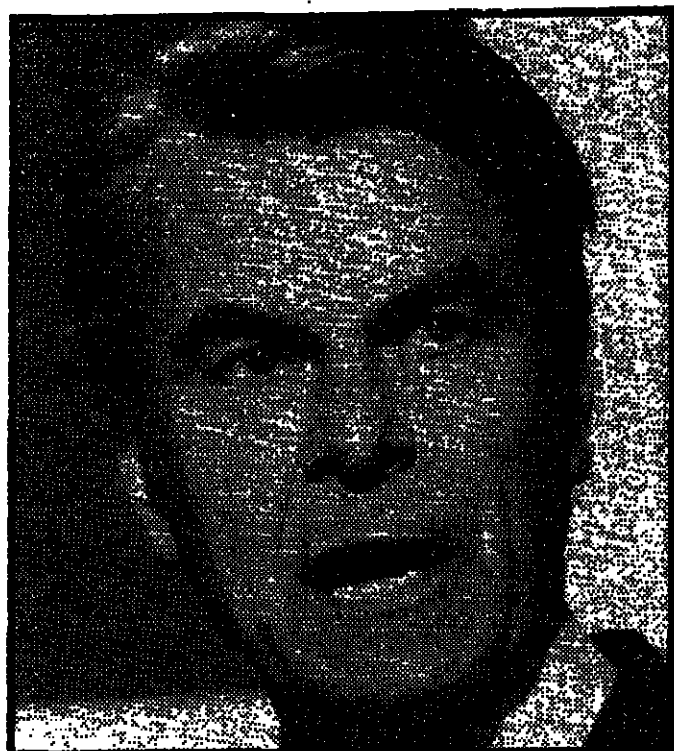
During the disruption Dr Owen was jostled and elbowed when he made several attempts to speak from the Opposition despatch box. After the Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting Dr Owen was able to make his speech from his normal place on the front bench below the gangway.

He told the Commons that the allegations of TGWU ballot-rigging were just a tip of the iceberg. He said the first union to hold a ballot on the political fund issue, Sogat, was undertaking a series of workplace polls.

If that proved the hallmark for the way the rest of the unions conduct their political fund ballots, claims of ballot-rigging would run all year.

He criticised the working of the new Trade Union Act, which reformed industrial relations law on ballots, saying that it did not fulfil its expectations since it gave unions the choice of whether to have a postal, a semi-postal or a workplace ballot.

Dr Owen was moving an Alliance motion which called upon the Government to amend the 1984 Trade Union Act immediately to ensure that, unless absolutely impossible in a particular case, all strike ballots, political fund ballots and elections for trade union executive com-



Dr Owen: "Just the tip of the iceberg"

mittees involved secret postal voting conducted by independent returning officers and scrutineers.

A government amendment welcomed the new stringent provisions of the Trade Union Act concerning secret ballots and the involvement of trade union members in their union's affairs.

Dr Owen said the new act did not cover the election of the new TGWU General Secretary, Mr Ron Todd, and it did not cover the ballots for non-voting general secretaries.

The forthcoming GMBU election for Mr David Bassett's successor will also be a branch-based vote rather than a postal ballot, and it is not covered by the act.

But the SDP leader reserved the main thrust of his attack for the series of

political fund ballots to be conducted in all unions during the next 12 months.

"All the officials in the unions believe that the political fund should be continued. It is they who are supervising these massive elections," he said.

"We are being asked to believe that the supervision should be undertaken by the full-time officials in the full-time places of work. The working of part one of the Trade Union Act leaves it open to these officials to conduct workplace ballots. The onus is not on them to have a postal ballot."

"If the Sogat ballot is the hallmark of these political fund elections the sort of stories we have been having about the TGWU will run all year."

The political fund elections

should be conducted by full secret postal ballots with the cost borne by the country as a whole.

"The TGWU is a tip of an ugly iceberg, which is giving temptation to any official with strong views if they are asked to supervise the political fund. It is incumbent upon us to insist that there should be independent supervision of such work-place ballots."

Doctor Owen was constantly heckled during his speech by Labour left-wingers Mr Dennis Skinner and Mr Dennis Canavan, who were sitting beside him. Mr Skinner accused Dr Owen of having willingly taken money from the union, ASTMS, during his period as a Labour MP and Mr Canavan demanded to know why Dr Owen and his fellow SDP MPs had not offered themselves for election among their constituents when they were elected from the Labour Party.

Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Employment, said he was astonished that the Alliance's motion called for postal ballots before strikes as Liberal and SDP MPs had not raised the matter during the course of the Trades Union Act. He asserted that Dr Owen had made gross inaccuracies in his defence in recent weeks with Mr King over trade-union ballots.

He recommended the new Trades Union Act to MPs: "no longer will the car-park meeting be tolerated in this country," he said.

The presumption of the act was in favour of postal ballots and unions would find themselves in trouble if they did not meet its safeguards.

He said that the proposals would succeed because they worked "with the grain of the unions" and were not imposing upon them. He said the Conservative Government was giving trades-unionists their rights.

Guarded welcome from PM for institute

THE Prime Minister yesterday gave a guarded welcome to the Commons to the Formation of the Employment Institute, the new independent think-tank on unemployment.

The group—whose patrons include the ex-Prime Ministers Lord Wilson, Mr Edward Heath and Mr James Callaghan—was initially greeted with scorn by Ministers.

But challenged on her view at Question Time, Mrs Thatcher told the Commons: "Anyone who in fact can help us solve the problem in practical terms, as distinct from talking about it, is of course welcome."

She stressed that two policies proposed by the Institute to tackle unemployment—reduced National Insurance contributions and an expanded community programme—had already been put in hand by the Government. "It would seem we have a number of things in common," she said.

Mrs Thatcher was replying to the Liberal Leader, Mr David Steel, who said the Institute had received "a cautious welcome" from the Employment Secretary, Mr Tom King, while the Tory Party chairman Mr John Gummer had "sought to belittle it."

"Which of your colleagues views do you support?" he demanded.

Mrs Thatcher told him: "Two of the things that they have proposed that would help have already been put in hand under this Government—they propose a cut in employer's National Insurance contributions, that's already occurred and they proposed an increase in the community programme, that has already occurred."

Later, Tory backbencher Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch) urged the Prime Minister to welcome the new group.

Mrs Thatcher told him: "It really is new business we need, and anything that will assist new business to form will be helpful."

The Government was already looking at a number of areas—such as tax incentives, regulations and planning permission—to help in the development of new business, she added.

Gorbachev 'must change policies before UN visit'

LORDS DEBATE

The Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, was urged by the former Conservative Prime Minister Lord Home, to make substantial changes in Soviet foreign policy before his visit to the United Nations in September.

Lord Home, opening a debate in the Lords on East-West relations, strongly attacked breaches of treaties by the Soviet Union and the invasion of Afghanistan, described as "flagrant and massive" breach of human rights by the European Commission.

"I bring this matter up because in August the Helsinki conference convenes. It will be necessary to tell Russian leaders in advance that unless they can conform to the commission's findings it will be impossible to find a formula to cover up or condone their actions in Afghanistan—that one cannot trust anything less than the minimum."

He added: "It is to be devoutly hoped that before then and before Mr Gorbachev goes to the UN, as I understand he may do in September, the Russian leaders should recognise the untold damage to Russia's reputation which follows such actions against a poorer and defenceless country of the Third World."

For the Government, Lord Trefgarne, a Defence Minister said it would be naive to expect early or significant changes in Soviet foreign policy because of the change in leadership.

But this view was challenged by Lord Gledwyn, the Leader of the opposition in the Lords, who said: "I cannot but think that an able and comparatively young leader from a different

generation may in due course develop a new approach."

Referring to the expulsion of five Soviet diplomats, Lord Home, who expelled 105 Russians in 1971 when he was in office, said: "The Russians will always spy. They will always use diplomatic cover and when they are caught, as they will be, they will be realistic and inflict on this country the minimum retaliation."

"The incident, in my view, will have no effect whatever on Russia's relations with this country."

He added: "It is something we have to endure every now and again, but we shall get through it without much harm."

Lord Home concluded, "It will not be easy for people steeped in the ideology of communism to realise in future that the relations with the Soviet Union are going to be taken as their bond. If international relations are to be satisfied and to be put on any sort of enduring basis they must rest on treaties honoured and on trust. Nothing less will do."

Lord Trefgarne said the motion called attention to the desire of the United Kingdom and other democracies for better relations with the Soviet Union. "This indeed is an accurate reflection of the Government's policy."

He said NATO's continued policy towards the Soviet Union was "sufficient strength, plus dialogue."

The West should not be lulled into thinking that increasing contacts were going to change the nature of communism or the aim of Soviet policy. "We must have no illusions in this respect."

He accused the Soviet Union of applying double standards of applying double standards. The invasion of Afghanistan was "nothing more than blatant latter-day colonialism."



Lord Home: Strong attack

tainted with lies and misrepresentation."

He warned that the West had to beware of thinly disguised organisations representing Soviet foreign policy, including the World Peace Council. The Government was prepared to take steps to ensure their activities were not given free rein and to ensure Britain did not play host to a series of "jamborees."

We have already refused visas to senior members of the World Peace Council.

He added: "All these factors form the realities which are part of our dealings with the Soviet Union. I believe it would be naive to expect early or significant changes."

Lord Orr Ewing, a Tory backbencher, attacked alleged Soviet subversive links with British trade unions.

Describing the World Peace Council, as a Soviet front organisation, Lord Orr Ewing said its Prague peace assembly in 1968 had been attended by Mr Ron Todd, who was elected in the disputed ballot as the general secretary of the TGWU. "It is encouraging that all political leaders, including Mr Kinnock, are now backing a re-run of Ron Todd's election," he said.

He named the Labour MP for Oldham Central, Mr James Lamond, as the British Vice-President of the WPC and said at least four other Labour MPs were members.

AGRICULTURE

Inquiry on quotas

ALLEGATIONS that farmers have transferred milk quotas by making phoney land deals are to be investigated by the Government.

The Agriculture Minister, Mr Michael Jopling, said he was arranging for transfers of quota to be

monitored to ensure that the requirements of Community and United Kingdom legislation are being observed.

"In particular, checks will be carried out to ensure that where quota has been transferred in connection with a sale or lease of land, and the land is subsequently returned to the original occupier without a change in the use of the land in the meantime."

"If there has been no such change, the quota will be transferred back to the holding from which it came."

He added that in order to establish change of use had occurred, a reasonable period of

time must separate the two transactions.

INDUSTRY

Pay at top defended

THE Minister for Youth Employment, Lord Young of Grafton, yesterday defended companies' rights to give big pay rises to chairmen and chief executives.

At Lords question time he said: "Unless we get men of

proven ability and talent at the head of our enterprises we will not get the employment we sorely need."

Lord Bewick (Lab.) said there was something "repugnant and offensive in the implication that certain individuals will only give of their best if they are paid in terms of hundreds of thousands of pounds a year."

Lord Stoddart of Swindon (Lab.) attacked an ICI move to raise the pay of its chairman, Mr John Harvey-Jones, by more than 66 per cent from £171,000 to £287,000 a year, when ordinary workers are being bargained by the Government to expect low wage increases to save jobs.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICE MANAGER

NJC Scale 10 SCP 40-43
plus Inner London Weighting Allowance.
£13,491 — £14,574 per annum inclusive

Our Social Services Division provides a range of professional services to cerebral palsied children, adults and their families in England and Wales. The Information and Advice Service is currently based at Fitzroy Square in London. The aim will be to develop the service on a regional basis.

The multidisciplinary advisory team is drawn from social work, medicine, therapy and education fields. As manager your role will be to direct and co-ordinate the service and its development. Reporting to the Social Work Services Manager you will have delegated responsibility for the Welfare Rights, the Society's Personal Services Fund and the departmental budget.

Ideally you would have a professional training relevant to services to the disabled, but essentially you should have a recognised management qualification coupled with at least 3-5 years' experience in a managerial role. Knowledge of cerebral palsy would be advantageous. The post will be challenging and require innovative skills to help us to develop the service.

For discussion, further information, and to request an application form, contact Lola Booth, Social Work Services Manager, 16 Fitzroy Square, London W1. Tel: 01-577 9571, Ext. 205.

Closing date: 8th May, 1985.

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

WEST LONDON MISSION WEST LONDON DAY CENTRE W1.

require
HOUSING ADVICE AND RESETTLEMENT WORKER

This new post requires an experienced worker to join existing Day Centre team. Salary s/c 24 NJC rates of pay. West London Mission Conditions of Service apply.

GENERAL WORKER

To assist in the running of the Day Centre. Salary s/c 18 NJC rates of pay. West London Mission Conditions of Service apply. Application forms and job description from: Co-ordinator of Social Work, West London Mission, 19 Thayer Street, London W1M 5LJ.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE FOR POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

CAPA monitors the police in Tower Hamlets, runs a 24-hour emergency service and campaigns for an accountable police force. We have GLC funding until 30.6.85 and we now require:

CASEWORKER/RESEARCHER

TO COMPLETE A TEAM OF 5 WORKERS. Case work experience, basic legal knowledge and familiarity with inner city areas and working with ethnic minority groups essential. Salary £22,750 (incl. L.W.). Job description and application form from: CAPA, Oxford House, Derbyshire St., London E2. Tel: 01-726 2652. Closing date 17.5.85. An Equal Opportunities Employer.

Day Care Social Worker

(Ref 4803)
£7,212-£7,986 / £8,919 p.a. incl.

To join the team at Sherwood Mental Health Centre, a therapeutic environment for recovering mentally ill clients learning to achieve maximum independence through a variety of activities: Counselling, self awareness and social skills groups, crafts, domestic and industrial occupation included.

You must have counselling and group work experience and preferably a relevant qualification.

For informal discussion ring Eric Mann, Principal Day Care Social Worker, on 01-546 6360.

Application form and further details from Staffing Officer (SS/WH), Guildhall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey. Please quote reference number. Tel: 01-546 2121, ext 3456 (office hours answering service).

Closing date: 8th May, 1985.

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES

THE NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS

has a vacancy for a

SENIOR BRANCH CLERK

In its London Freelance Office

The work will involve the supervision of two members of staff and the general administration of a busy union branch, dealing with the servicing of members' contributions and membership records, branch and committee meetings, etc. A knowledge of trade union work processes would be an advantage but more important is the ability to deal sympathetically with the queries and problems of freelance journalists and a proven record of staff supervision. A commitment to the trade union movement is essential.

Salary will commence at £2,485 p.a., four weeks' holiday in the first year rising to five after one year's service and six after six years' service. Other benefits include interest free season ticket loans and a 32% loan week. The successful applicant will be required to join AFPS.

Please write with full C.V. to: John MacCarthy, Head Office Administrator, National Union of Journalists, Acorn House, 314 Gays Inn Road, London WC1X 8DP, on or before the 7th May, 1985.

The NUJ is an equal opportunities employer.

KINGSTON ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

(Affiliated to the National Association for Mental Health)

RESIDENTIAL WARDEN

A caring and responsible person required to run a new 8-place community hostel in central Kingston.

The residents will be recovering from some form of mental illness and needing the shelter of this hostel as a stepping-stone to greater independence in the community.

Experience in some aspects of mental health work essential; therapeutic community or group work experience advantageous.

Successful candidate will be assisted by a part-time, non-resident deputy warden, and also supported by this active association. Salary: £3,500. One-bedroomed, self-contained flat, rent free.

For detailed job description and application form, write to: The Secretary, Kingston Association for Mental Health, 99 Villiers Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey, KT5 8BE. For informal discussion, phone Mrs Mary Haskell 01-398 7205. Closing date for application forms: 9th May, 1985. Registered Charity No. 28276.

Senior Personnel Officer Training

SO2 £10,404-£11,025

The Council is embarking on a new major programme of training and development which is intended to provide a wide range of training and development opportunities for its staff.

Strategic Training (Equal Opportunities, Management Skills and development, Recruitment, etc.).

Common Training needs (Communications, Health & Safety, Information Technology etc.).

Training members of the Council.

To help implement this wide range of new initiatives, we require an experienced training officer. The officer will be involved in developing many programmes from scratch and will need to work to a tight programme schedule. The work will involve the whole range of training skills including on the job training, designing, organizing and presenting of the job courses, etc. and assisting managers with the identification of training needs and the formulation of departmental training programmes.

Although the PM or an equivalent qualification is preferable, experience and ability are our main requirements. The successful candidate will need to have good training and consultancy skills, with a proven track record of achievement.

Further details and an application form are available from Ken Gledhill, Personnel Department, City Hall, Norwich, Tel. (0693) 62223, Ext. 226. Completed applications must be returned by 17th May 1985.

Norwich is an Equal Opportunities Employer

CITY OF NORWICH

HACKNEY COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

DIAL-A-RIDE requires an

ASSISTANT CO-ORDINATOR

To help run a very busy & demanding office dealing with daily transport problems for those who find it difficult to use public transport. Driving licence essential and a willingness to work flexible hours.

Salary scale £12,780 including LW. 35 hours per week. Further information and application forms from: Alison Lowe, Hackney Community Transport, Roseville Street, London E5. Telephone 01 806 0944

Dial-A-Ride is GLC funded until March 1986. Hackney Community Transport is an equal opportunities employer. Closing date for applications Tuesday 7th May 1985.

HEAD OF TRAINING

AGE CONCERN ENGLAND is seeking a new head of training to manage a team producing and expanding their range of courses, publications and training advice services on aging issues and skills for the Age Concern movement, professionals, universities, academic and training bodies.

We are looking for an experienced and committed person with appropriate qualifications and with the capacity to promote specialist and multi-disciplinary training.

The appointment will be based at our Mitcham offices with frequent attendances at our Training Resource Centre in Birmingham and elsewhere.

Salary in range £9,650-£11,965 p.a. inc. contributory pension scheme. 4 weeks' annual leave plus 5 recess days. Closing date 10th May, 1985. Please write for further details to: Head of Personnel, Age Concern England, 60 Piccadilly Rd, Mitcham, Surrey.

Re-advertisement GENERAL SECRETARY

CND requires a General Secretary responsible for policy implementation and co-ordination, with proven organisational and management skills, experience in non-commercial organisation(s), and commitment to the Campaign.

For an application form and detailed job description, ring Judith Hanna on 01-263 0977, or write to CND, 11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ. Closing date for completed applications: Friday May 3.

CND operates a policy of pay parity with salary currently at £7,932 p.a. including London weighting. Job-related expenses are paid.

We welcome your application, which will be considered on merit irrespective of race, marital status or sex.

Further details and application form from Senior Administrative Officer, Southwark Adult Education Institute and London Borough of Southwark Social Services Department.

are seeking applications from suitably qualified and experienced people for the post of

LECTURER GRADE II

to work with mentally handicapped adults within the London Borough of Southwark Social Services, and the L.E.A. and the person appointed will receive support from a group made up of those two bodies together with representatives of the respective local societies, etc. We are seeking a person who will ensure that the individual educational needs of mentally handicapped adults are met in the most appropriate way and will also seek to harmonise the responses in care, counselling and education and heighten the effectiveness of the respective services.

Salary Scale: Burnham (F.E.) Scale Lecturer II £7,548 to £12,059 plus £1,038 London Allowance.

Further details and application form from Senior Administrative Officer, Southwark Adult Education Institute, 101 Queen's Road Central, St Mary's Road, SE15, s.a.e. essential. Closing date May 10, 1985.

All posts which are Lecturer I or Principal Lecturer are considered suitable for job share. Applications for job share will only be considered if submitted on a paired basis.

L.E.A. IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

ISLINGTON HEALTH AUTHORITY

Community and Continuing Care Unit

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Salary £7,000 (Grade) £5,981 - £7,000 (incl. L.W.)

For busy Personnel Office. As well as undertaking secretarial work for the Unit Personnel Officer, you will be expected to assist in the recruitment of staff.

Good opportunity for an intelligent, energetic secretary wishing to gain training for future career in personnel management.

Job description and application form available from the Unit Personnel Officer, Islington Health Authority, 100 Broad Street, London WC1N 1JH. Tel: 01-252 2322 extension 872. Closing date: May 8, 1985.

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

THREE YEAR SOLICITOR

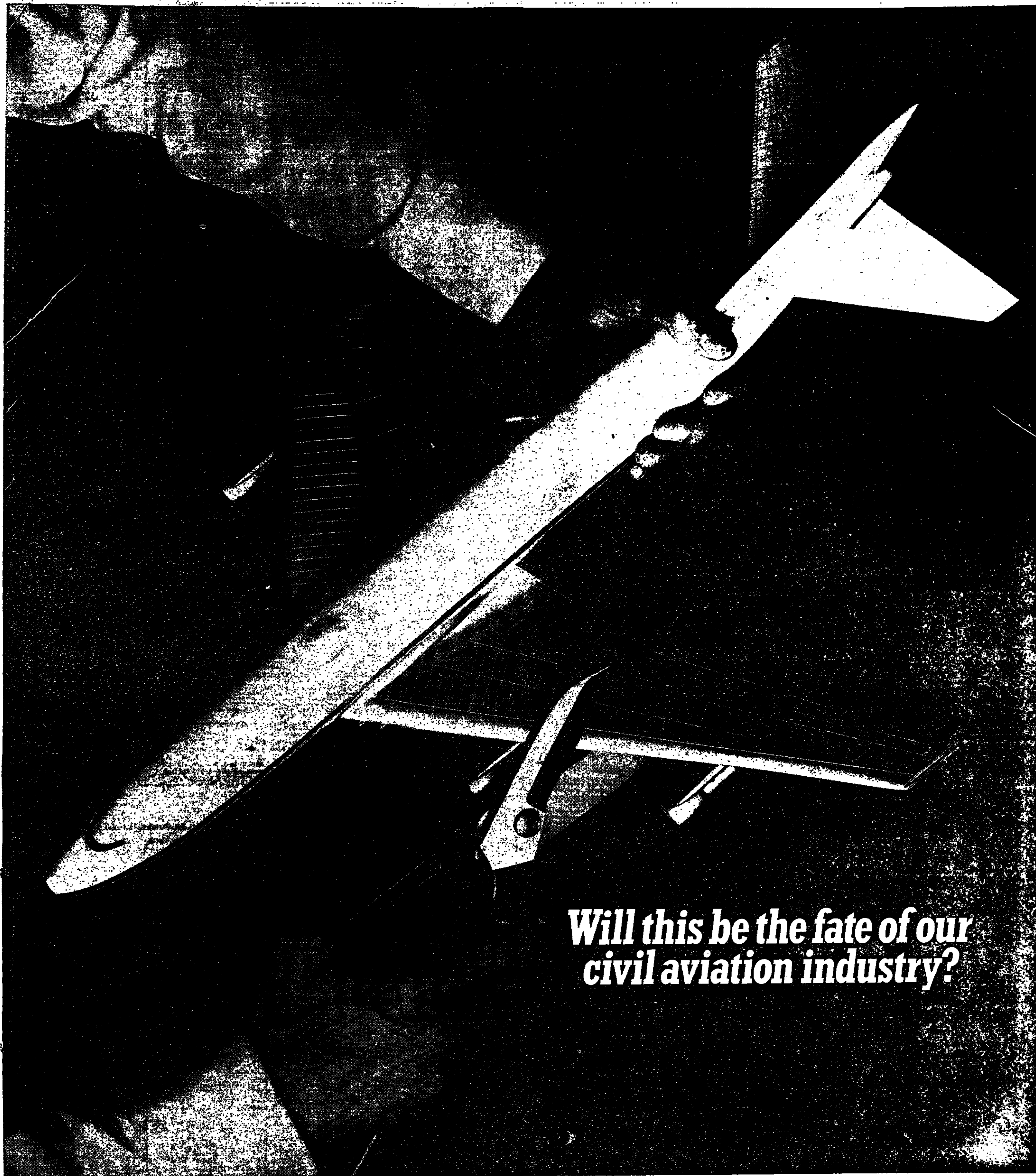
WANDSWORTH LEGAL RESOURCE PROJECT (Law Centre)

requires a three year solicitor.

Experienced in two of the following areas necessary: Housing, Welfare Rights, Employment, Immigration.

Closing date for applications 8th May, 1985. Further information for WLRP, 01-228 9462.

Public Appointments continue on page 14



Will this be the fate of our civil aviation industry?

In 1983, this country made a profit of £430 million from our aviation industry.

And last year, the tourists who were flown into Britain spent over £4.25 billion in our hotels, theatres, pubs and shops.

This business continues to grow at a rapid pace, bringing even more money into the country and providing more jobs.

So much so, that forecasts indicate that in future years London's airports will find themselves unable to cope.

The airlines would have to look to Holland, France and Germany to deposit

their passengers, their freight and their money.

The report of the Airports Inquiries 1981-1983 was recently published.

It concluded that the London airport system (of Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton and Stansted) can remain at the centre of the world's airline industry only if it expands.

The report forecast that by the next decade the demand can only be met by an increased capacity in the south-east, which means expanding Stansted Airport and building a fifth terminal at Heathrow.

Every effort should be made to develop the regional airports, but their expansion alone could not meet the future demands of the south-east.

Unless the above recommendations of the Inquiries are acted upon swiftly, the aviation industry will suffer.

Which will mean the country loses revenue and loses jobs.

We wish to see a civil aviation industry that has the freedom to grow to its full potential.

Not one that has had its wings clipped.

AIR-UK - BRITISH AIRPORTS AUTHORITY - BRITISH AIRWAYS - BRITISH CALEDONIAN AIRWAYS - BRITISH MIDLAND AIRWAYS - DAN AIR

Army gains a voice in new appointments

Gorbachev's allies promoted during Politburo review

From Martin Walker in Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's two closest allies in the Central Committee, the technocrat, Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, and the man in charge of party appointments, Mr Yegor Ligachev, have been promoted to full membership of the Politburo, a rare distinction because neither had to serve a probationary period as a non-voting candidate member.

The head of the KGB, Mr Viktor Chebrikov, was also promoted to full membership at yesterday's plenum meeting of the Central Committee, almost two years after his election as a candidate member.

The Soviet armed forces again have their own voice on the Politburo in the new Defence Minister, Marshal Sergei Sokolov, although as a candidate member, he does not have a formal vote.

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Viktor Nikonov, has been promoted to what is possibly the hottest seat in Soviet Government, Secretary for Agriculture in the Central Committee.

The post was formerly held by Mr Gorbachev, but it carries the constant risk of being made the scapegoat for the continued shortcomings of the Soviet farming sector.

In an unusually short statement on Soviet television, the Politburo promotions were announced, and it was said that the plenum had discussed matters of party organisation.

A list of those members of the Central Committee who spoke after Mr Gorbachev's report was given, and it was said that an agreed statement would be published in the Soviet press later.

The only other item in the brief statement was the announcement that the next Party Congress would take place on February 25, 1986, and not in the autumn, as had been widely expected. This gives Mr Gorbachev another three months to overhaul the party bureaucracy to his own requirements.

The new average age of the



New faces: two of Mr Gorbachev's closest allies, Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov (left) and Mr Yegor Ligachev, promoted to the Politburo

WEST Germany's largest bank, Deutsche Bank, is holding preliminary talks on a credit of 750 million marks (\$200 million) for the Soviet Union, a bank spokesman said yesterday.

He said that the bank's joint management board spokesman, Mr F. Wilhelm Christians, met the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, in Moscow last week and underlined the bank's readiness to take a positive stance towards future credit needs.—Reuter.

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Pope deplores film on Mary

ROME: The Pope yesterday stepped into the controversy about the French director, Jean-Luc Godard's film on the Virgin Mary, saying it distorted and reviled the spiritual significance of the mother of Jesus.

The film, *Je Vous Salue Marie* (Hail Mary), portrays Mary as the teenage daughter of a petrol station manager. Joseph is a taxi driver who devours science-fiction paperbacks and the Archangel Gabriel is a foul-mouthed, at times violent, drifter.

The Pope said in an unusually strong public statement that he deplored the film, now showing at a Rome cinema.

A telegram sent in his name by the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, to the Cardinal of Rome, Mr Ugo Poletti, said that the film deeply wounded believers' religious sentiment and respect for sacred things.

The telegram said the pontiff would be spiritually present with believers at a prayer service against the film at Rome's Basilica of St John in Lateran later yesterday.

The preview in France in January was disrupted when a group of Catholics burst in and stole a reel of film.

Followers of the French traditionalist Archbishop, Mr Marcel Lefebvre, last week demonstrated outside the cinema in Rome where it is showing, calling the film blasphemous and asking the authorities to ban it.

Under a revised agreement between the Vatican and Italy last year, Rome lost its status as a sacred city, which in the past led to censorship of material seen as offensive to Roman Catholicism or the Papacy.

In Hall Mary, when Mary becomes pregnant without having sex, her fiancé Joseph is overcome with jealousy and refuses to believe she is a virgin. Finally he accepts the situation. The film includes nude scenes of Mary and ends with a surreal vision of the Christ-child tottering away into the countryside.—Reuter.

Journalists' death toll reaches 23

From Iain Guest in Vevey, Switzerland

AN INTERNATIONAL seminar heard here yesterday that 23 journalists were killed, wounded, gaoled, or expelled in the course of their work last year.

The statistics were presented by the World Press Freedom Committee to a two-day seminar on the safety of journalists organised by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

According to the statistics, 23 of the journalists were killed, 81 wounded, and 205 gaoled.

The seminar was also told that 210 journalists have been killed in Latin America over the past 20 years.

According to the General Federation of Arab Journalists, which is one of the 16 organisations attending the seminar, 98 Arab journalists have been killed in the last 10 years of conflict in the Middle East.

The vice-president of the ICRC told the meeting: "When a newspaper correspondent goes to the front, he knows the risks he is taking and he accepts them. Bombings, shelling, mined roads, dangers inherent in any war."

"However, what you do not accept, because they are unacceptable, are the deliberate killing, prolonged detention, ill-treatment, abduction, murder—designed in disregard of your freedom or even your life, to keep you from doing your job."

Pershing report

From Anna Tomfoerde in Bonn

THE ACCIDENT involving a Pershing II rocket in which three American soldiers were killed and 16 injured in January was caused by an unpermitted electronic charge in the fuel tank as well as incorrect handling of a rocket part by maintenance staff, Defence Ministry sources said yesterday.

The Defence Minister, Mr Manfred Wörner, and the American Army Minister, Mr John Ambrose, are due to brief the Bundestag Defence Committee on the accident at the US Walldorf air base near Heilbronn on January 11.

According to the sources, the investigation report concludes that there was "no risk of nuclear contamination" from the accident, which has led to considerable concern among the local population.



Renaissance tour for Royals

Florence: The Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday renewed a tradition of the British Royal Family dating back to the late 19th Century by touring the Renaissance city.

The Royal couple began their tour with visits to an 11th-century church and a collection of paintings in the Palazzo Pitti.

Prince Charles and Princess Diana, who are staying in a 16th-century villa in a park outside Florence, visited the church of San Miniato on a hill overlooking the city in their first engagement of the day, where they are seen with Father Vittorio Aldimici. According to legend, St Miniato, after being beheaded in a Roman amphitheatre, carried his head across the River Arno to the spot where the white

and green marble-faced church now stands.

As the couple left the church they lingered in a souvenir shop run by monks, where they were presented with a bottle of herbal liquor, a pot of honey, and a ceramic bowl. During a walkabout, the Prince stooped to kiss the head of an old woman pensioner who said she had met the Queen in 1953 during a stay in Britain.

They were then taken to the city centre to see three rooms in the Palazzo Pitti containing paintings by Titian, Rubens, and Raphael. After lunch at Villa I Colazzi, the country house of the Frescobaldi, the couple spent an afternoon without formal engagements.—Reuter.

British rebate at centre of Community row on budget

From Alex Scott in Luxembourg

A clash on Britain's £800-million rebate from the EEC is expected between the European Parliament and Community finance ministers.

After a meeting between the two sides here yesterday, the Parliament's President, Mr Pierre Pflimlin, said that there was serious disagreement about final control of the rebate.

The British money is part of the EEC's 1985 budget, which Parliament rejected in December. The finance ministers are attempting to put together a new package to present to Parliament next month.

Observers believe that the question of the British rebate could prompt Parliament to reject the budget again, thereby further crippling EEC finances.

The Community has been forced to operate a strict month-by-month budget since the beginning of the year — a form of financing which is expected to expire in the summer when the money will run out.

Ministers were working late into the night to reach agreement on how much extra funding will be required before the end of the year. All the member states will be expected to produce additional resources to bail out the budget, and Britain could be asked to pay up to £240 million more.

The Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Mr Ian Stewart, together with his Dutch and Belgian colleagues, was battling to reduce extra spending.

Part of the problem is that there has still been no agreement over this year's farm prices, and therefore no figure to be set aside in the budget to pay for the inevitable increase in costs.

Mr Stewart argued that to leave open the figure for farm spending in the budget was an invitation to the farm ministers to go for larger price increases.

Oxfam condemns Britain on aid

From Michael White in Washington

Oxfam yesterday published a report condemning Britain's ambivalent attitude towards the crisis in Nicaragua, as both houses of Congress embarked upon all-day debates to decide the fate of President Reagan's aid policy.

Protracted talks between the White House and a bipartisan group of senators failed to achieve a workable compromise between the president's now discredited formula for a ceasefire and renewed aid to the rebels in Nicaragua — despite evident eagerness on both sides to avoid an outright breach between the two ends of Pennsylvania Avenue.

In the House of Representatives which was expected to start voting just before midnight local time there is less inclination to compromise among the Democratic majority.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to influence congressional opinion, Oxfam joined lobbyists, activists, Hollywood stars and others involved on both sides in recent days — and the American churches which have been conspicuously anti-Reagan on Central America. The agency published a report, soon to be released in Britain, which offered a 20-year perspective on its work in Nicaragua.

In essence, Dianna Melrose, the author of Nicaragua: The Threat of a Good Example? While not uncritical of the Sandinistas, overwhelmingly endorses their efforts to bring social and economic progress to a poor country.

She condemns the US-backed contra for the disastrous effect of their guerrilla war. While condemning the Reagan Administration for its trade and aid war against the Sandinistas since 1980, it is particularly scornful of Britain whose performance it contrasts with other European countries and the EEC.

British official bilateral aid to Nicaragua was eight times as great per head in 1977 as it was in 1983. We compare a high level of support for Honduras and Costa Rica which also get huge US aid. Ms Melrose argues that Whitehall's criteria must be "of an essentially political nature".

Officers stay away from court

From Jeremy Morgan in Buenos Aires

NONE of the senior officers facing charges including murder, kidnapping, and torture during the military regime which handed over power to President Alfonsín 16 months ago, appeared in the dock at the public hearings of their trial.

The defendants were not obliged to turn up. The trial is even more unusual because the military is unused to having to answer for its conduct in office, and because the proceedings are in public.

Lawyers for the defence protested against the "political" trial as the six judges handling the hearing began to hear testimony from more than 2,000 witnesses who will be called.

The first witness was Dr Italo Luder, the opposition Peronist mayor of Buenos Aires, who was a presidential candidate in the elections held by the regime in October, 1983. He was questioned about a decree signed in October 1975, when he briefly replaced President "Isabel" Peron.

The decree, signed only days before Dr Luder handed power back to Mrs Peron six months before the government was overthrown, ordered the military to "assist in the subversion" throughout Argentina. Dr Luder insisted that "annihilation" his government had meant the armed forces were to remove "subverting" citizens' rights. If the government had known what was going to happen afterwards, he claimed, it would have repealed the decree.

Duvalier to ease reins

By Greg Chamberlain

Haiti's President-for-Life, Jean-Claude Duvalier, is to permit political parties in the Caribbean republic his family has ruled for the past 28 years.

The move, announced on Monday, was immediately denounced as a sham by leading opposition figures. Mr Sylvio Claude, head of the small underground Christian Democratic Party, who has been in hiding in the capital, Port-au-Prince, since last July, called for the abolition of the life presidency.

Mr Duvalier, aged 33, said he would appoint a prime minister from the majority party in Parliament, but did not say when new elections would be held. A Parliament, all of whose members back the President who barred any real opposition, was chosen one last year and has four more years to run.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arms talks stalemated

THE GENEVA conference on disarmament ended its spring session yesterday in a bleak mood of stalemate similar to that prevailing at the US-Soviet arms control negotiations, writes Hella Pick.

The conference has been primarily preoccupied during the past few months with negotiations to ban chemical weapons. In March, Britain tabled a proposal designed to overcome differences between the Soviet Union and West European countries on verification procedures.

No progress has been made despite the US deploring "the slow pace" and Soviet warning that "we can no longer put up with this stalemate."

Relics on show

BYZANTINE relics from Mount Athos are to go on show for the first time in Salonika in October — allowing women their first opportunity to see them. Even female pilgrims have been barred from the 20 monasteries that make up the autonomous community of Mount Athos by imperial decree dating back more than a thousand years. The display will be part of the city's international trade fair. — Reuter.

MPs detained

EIGHT Belgian MPs parliamentarians were remanded in custody yesterday for illegally entering the Florentine air base, where 16 cruise missiles are deployed. The eight, charged with illegal entry, are to be sentenced on Friday. They face maximum prison terms of one month. — AP.



PRESIDENT Honecker of East Germany arrived in Italy yesterday on his first official visit to a Nato-member country. He will have an audience with the Pope and also sign a protocol on economic cooperation. — AP.

Widow remanded

SYBILA Arredondo, an anthropologist and the widow of a Peruvian socialist, Jose Maria Arguedas, has been remanded in custody by a Lima court, accused of involvement in terrorist activity, writes Mike Reid. She was arrested last month with five alleged leaders of the Sendero Luminoso guerrilla movement, and is now likely to be detained for up to six months.

Chile kidnap

THE DAUGHTER of a former Chilean government minister has been abducted in Santiago and interrogated for 22 hours about the dissident activities of her family. Government agencies have denied involvement, but Miss Carmen Hales reported that her leading interrogator was referred to as captain, writes Malcolm Cook.

Cyprus bound

A STRIKE by Cyprus Airways employees has stranded passengers at Larnaca international airport. Ground staff are staging two-hour stoppages twice daily, working to rule and banning overtime in support of demands for improved pay and conditions. — Reuter.

'Spy' charged

WEST GERMANY'S chief prosecutor, Mr Kurt Rebmann, said yesterday he had charged a 44-year-old West German engineer with spying for the KGB, the Soviet secret police. Mr Dieter Doerfler is accused of handing over documents dealing with weapons projects developed by the US Reuter.

Slow bus

PEKING'S bus drivers are going slow in protest about pay and bonuses, a senior Chinese trade union official said yesterday. The drivers lose bonuses if buses are late or involved in minor traffic violations — a more frequent occurrence as Peking's roads grow more clogged with new motor traffic. — Reuter.

Sweet success?

THINGS will be going differently henceforth at Coca-Cola's numerous bottling plants. The company announced in the US yesterday that a new, sweeter formula has been devised for the 99-year-old soft drink to counter a loss of market share. — AP.

Maputo ambush

FIVE Mozambicans, including three officials of the ruling Frelimo Party, were killed by rebels last Friday near the capital, Maputo when their vehicle was ambushed, the official news agency reported yesterday. — Reuter.

Britons killed

TWO BRITISH soldiers were killed and six others injured yesterday when a lorry overturned near an army base at Sennelager, West Germany. Their names were not released. — Reuter.

Corsican bomb

A BOMB badly damaged a French government building in Bastia, Corsica, last night. Police suspect the Corsican National Liberation Front was responsible. — Reuter.

Tony Wainwright, Jnt. M.D. Standard Bookbinding

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Deployment of army fails to halt Indian caste fighting

Fifteen die in Gujarat's worst day of violence

From Eric Silver in Ahmedabad

At least 15 people were reportedly killed and 80 wounded in street battles between rival groups here yesterday despite the deployment of troops to try to halt the fighting.

It was the worst day of violence in this western Indian city since the start of a bitter campaign 11 weeks ago to reverse the government's reservation jobs and college places for minority groups. During savage clashes between police and supporters and opponents of the policies, victims were stabbed, shot, stoned, and burned to death.

The three million inhabitants of the state of Gujarat's industrial capital are a volatile mix of castes and classes, and the violence followed a night in which 12 men and women died in fighting between upper and lower caste Hindus and between Hindus and Muslims, bringing the total death toll so far to 48.

By yesterday afternoon the army, which was deployed on Monday night, could claim that the situation was under control. An infantry brigade was on call, patrolling the worst affected areas with automatics at the ready in open lorries and primed to rush to any new trouble spots.

Six companies of paramilitary Central Reserve Police were manning inter-sections. The local police, which had run amok on Monday after a constable was hacked to death with a billhook, reverted to maintaining the peace. About a third of the city remained under curfew, as did Baroda

and Broach elsewhere in the state.

The fire brigade was called to the Sindhi cloth market just outside the old walled city when low-caste campaigners set shops ablaze for staying open during a recent strike.

In Sagunagar, the worst-hit slum district, single-storey shops and houses were still burning last night. The narrow lanes were deserted except for dirtywhite cows and eager goats picking at the debris. Muslims lived on one side of the road, Hindus on the other. It was the Muslims' property that suffered this time.

At one crossroads there were five overturned and burned-out jeeps. At another, nearer the main police station, broken glass and blackened scooters testified to the day the constabulary went berserk. Their main target was the local press, which they blamed for spotlighting charges of police brutality. The Ahmedabad editions of the Times of India and the Indian Express did not appear yesterday. The textile mills were closed and buses off the roads.

The Gujarat violence first flared last February, three months after the Government announced that government job and university quotas for untouchables and other underprivileged castes would go up from 51 to 49 per cent. Students, mainly from upper caste Hindu families, claim the quotas deprive them of jobs and college places on merit. The Interior Minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, told Parliament yesterday that police in Ahmedabad had committed arson and damaged private property about a third of the city remained under curfew, as did Baroda



Indonesia and Peking agree to talks

RANDUNGG, Indonesia: Indonesia and China agreed yesterday to hold formal talks for the first time since Jakarta froze diplomatic relations after an abortive Communist-backed coup 20 years ago.

The Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, said that the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, (surrounded by reporters above) had asked for a meeting. The talks were being arranged but a time had yet to be fixed, he said. Mr Wu, attending ceremonies to mark the 30th anniversary of the Bandung Asia-Africa conference, is the first Chinese minister to visit Indonesia since relations were suspended in 1967.

He said on arrival in Jakarta on Monday night that China would not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries and said he would be honoured to meet President Suharto.

Mr Mochtar did not say if the meeting of the two foreign ministers would lead to a formal dialogue with President Suharto.

The President says Indonesia will not resume ties while Peking refuses to renounce its moral support for Communist insurgents in South-east Asia. For Peking, the unfreezing of ties with Jakarta is a foreign policy goal and long overdue.

Mr Wu arrived in Bandung, in west Java, yesterday with 22 other foreign ministers to a traditional welcome of music and dancing by women who showered delegates with jasmine petals. The delegates from 80 countries, who represent two-thirds of the world's population, came to renew their commitment to the Bandung spirit which speeded up the process of decolonisation and helped to create the Nonaligned Movement. — Reuter.

Chinese unions seek link-up

Peking: China said yesterday that it was ready to restore relations with trade unions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The vice-president of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, Mr Wang Jiaochang, told local journalists that links had already been re-established with trade unions in East Germany and Hungary.

His remarks followed the latest round of talks in Moscow on normalising overall relations between China and the Soviet Union. The special envoy, Mr Qian Qichen, arrived home yesterday from the Soviet capital, but said little progress had been achieved.

Peking has demanded a reduction of Soviet troops on its border, and end to Moscow's military intervention in Afghanistan and a halt to Kremlin support for Vietnam's policy in Kampuchea as a condition for normalising links between the estranged Communist giants.

Mr Qian saw the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko, on Monday and, according to local reports, told him it was up to Moscow to make a move to improve their strained ties. — Reuter.

Sihanouk quits as coalition leader

Peking: Prince Norodom Sihanouk has asked to resign as president of Kampuchea's previous anti-Vietnamese guerrilla coalition, foreign diplomats said yesterday.

They said Prince Sihanouk wrote to Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge leader and coalition Prime Minister, resigning for health reasons. No one answered the telephone at Prince Sihanouk's residence in Phnom Penh, North Korea, yesterday, and no details were available.

The diplomats said that Prince Sihanouk, who has previously threatened to resign in protest against his two coalition partners, was not ill although he recently seemed tired and could be suffering from high blood pressure.

The coalition, recognised by the United Nations, links Prince Sihanouk with the former Prime Minister, Mr Son Sann, and the Communist Khmer Rouge.

Protest blasts in Dhaka

From Amin Chowdhury in Dhaka

Explosions rocked Dhaka and other towns as the opposition political parties in Bangladesh yesterday started a week-long campaign against the military government.

The object is to force President Hussain Mohammad Ershad to cancel the rural subdistrict elections planned for next month.

Three policemen were seriously wounded yesterday when demonstrators threw bombs near a government office where candidates for the subdistrict elections were submitting nominations.

One person was also killed and 11 others injured when bombs went off near Baitul Mukarram Plaza in Dhaka.

Police used batons to break up chanting demonstrators who retaliated by throwing stones. Six policemen were wounded, one seriously.

President Ershad, now three years in power, has outlawed strikes, processions, demonstrations, and all political and trade union activity.

Elections to head the 460 subdistricts have been planned in two phases, on May 16 and May 20.

President Ershad, armed with a mandate to rule after last month's controversial referendum, told foreign correspondents that he would relax the stiff martial law and hold talks with the opposition after the subdistrict polls. Most politicians are still in hiding. The two principal political opponents of the regime — Mrs Khaleda Zia, chief of the Nationalist Party, and Mr Sheikh Hasina Wazed, president of Awami League — have been in hiding since March 1. Opposition sources claimed that more than 500 of their workers and students have been arrested during the last fortnight. — Reuter.

Afghan assembly opens

ISLAMABAD: President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan yesterday opened a grand tribal assembly in Kabul to gain popular support for his Soviet-backed war against Muslim guerrillas.

Kabul radio, monitored in Islamabad, said that the opening session of the assembly, the Loya Jirga, was attended by 1,998 delegates, about four times more than in any previous countrywide tribal gathering.

Western diplomats here said that Soviet and Afghan troops were patrolling the streets of Kabul in force, while Khat, the secret police, was reported to have brought in extra agents from provinces for the event.

Mr Karmal said last week that the assembly was to take crucial decisions against the guerrillas.

Few guerrilla attacks were reported in Kabul last week, but several rebel leaders based in Pakistan have threatened to put delegates on a "hit list" for eventual killing.

According to one unconfirmed report, guerrillas either shot at or hit a plane carrying Loya Jirga deputies to Kabul from the north-eastern province of Badkhashan.

The diplomats said that the Jirga, the first since President Karmal was installed in power during the Soviet intervention in 1979 might be aimed at winning tribal support for an escalation of the six-year war against the guerrillas. Moscow has an estimated 115,000 troops in Afghanistan.

Kabul appeared to back up this interpretation in its broadcast to Pakistan's tribal areas yesterday, saying that Jirga was traditionally held to make peace, but could also opt for war if the country's independence were in danger. — Reuter.

Soviet Union bans tourism to India

New Delhi: The Soviet Union appears to have banned tourists from visiting India since a Soviet diplomat was murdered here and a second diplomat defected, a Tourism Ministry official said yesterday.

"It seems Moscow has imposed an informal ban on trips to India. There have been dozens of cancelled bookings for April," Mr Ramesh Chandra, the assistant director-general of tourism, said.

"It looks as though the ban follows the troubles at the Soviet embassy here last month."

Mr Chandra said the Soviet Union had not given an official reason for the cancellations. A Soviet embassy spokesman had no comment.

defected to the United States in March and a week later another Soviet diplomat, Mr Victor Khizchenko, was shot dead near the Soviet embassy.

About 17,000 Soviet tourists normally visit India each year out of a total tourist turnover of about 900,000.

"This is a small percentage of the foreign visitor total but at the moment we cannot afford to lose anybody," Mr Chandra said.

He said a team of senior officials from the Tourism Department, Air India, and private travel agencies left for Moscow yesterday in a bid to persuade Soviet Authorities to resume the tourist trade.

"We're hoping to persuade the Soviet Union that India is a safe place to be," he said. — Reuter.

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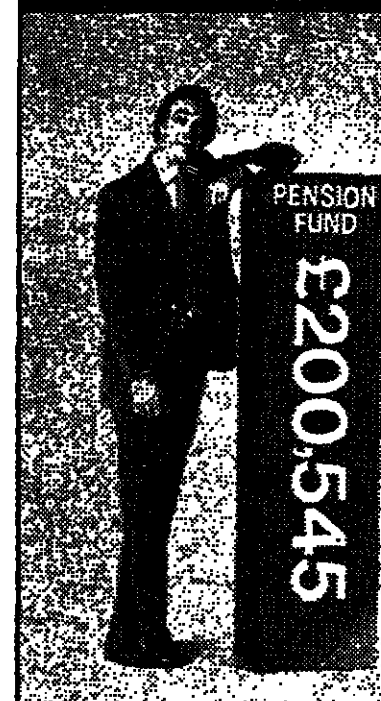
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Ambulancemen suspended over testimony

Three UDF leaders detained following attacks by Botha

From Patrick Laurence in Johannesburg

Three senior members of the United Democratic Front were detained by security police yesterday in the wake of attacks by the President, Mr P. W. Botha, on the UDF as an alleged "internal front" for the outlawed African National Congress and South African Communist party.

The three men are Mr "Terror" Lekota, publicity secretary of the UDF, Mr Popo Molefe, general secretary, and Mr Moss Chikane, a UDF activist. Mr Lekota and Mr Molefe are both members of the UDF national executive.

All three men are being held under section 29 of the Internal Security Act, which provides for solitary confinement and indefinite detention. Their lawyers said yesterday that they were being held under "security laws."

Also yesterday, in Uitenhage, about eight miles from Port Elizabeth, three ambulance drivers who challenged the government version of how police killed 20 blacks last month were suspended from their government jobs, their superior said.

Testifying at a government inquiry into the killings, the superior said he suspended the two whites and a black because he said they "twisted" their testimony to discredit the ambulance service.

The detention of the three UDF members appears to relate to pending charges of treason against detainees from the Vaal Triangle, focal point of the township unrest late last year.

A police statement said: "Investigations are being conducted into the three detainees' involvement in cases arising from unrest in Vaal Triangle during August and September last year."

Between 16 and 20 Vaal Triangle detainees, one an Anglican priest, are due to appear in court soon on charges of treason relating to unrest in the area of last year, the Attorney-General for the Transvaal, Mr Don Brunette, said recently.

Another 16 people have been charged with treason in Durban, most are senior UDF members. They include six members of the last year's national executive. Two of the Durban treason trialists, Mrs Albertina Sisulu and Mr

Archie Gumede, were reelected to the national executive over Easter.

Mr Lekota's and Mr Molefe's detention means that four of the 25 members of the new UDF are now detained.

Lekota, a former Robben Island prisoner, has spearheaded the campaign to organise mass demonstrations against the scheduled tour of South Africa by the New Zealand rugby team.

The UDF said yesterday: "It is striking that 'Terror' Lekota was detained so soon after the decision of the UDF to protest against the New Zealand rugby tour. We see it as a reprisal against the UDF and Mr Lekota for challenging a symbol of Afrikaner culture."

Mr Justice Kammeyer yesterday reprimanded the secretary of the Dias Divisional Council, Mr Nigel Anderson, for "deciding provisionally" that the men had made false statements to the commission.

He added: "You have decided that what they said was twisted. The damage has been done. I can't expect other ambulancemen to testify freely if they are going to be judged by their seniors."

Southern Sudanese denounce cabinet

From Jonathan Steele in Khartoum

The choice of ministers for Sudan's new civilian government has set back chances for an early end to the civil war, according to political observers here.

Although the cabinet, which was announced on Monday, was largely drawn up by the alliance of political parties and professional associations which led the demonstrations before President Jafar Numeiri's overthrow the three southerners were selected by the army.

They are all men who served Mr Numeiri and their selection was angrily denounced yesterday by the organisation of southern Sudanese in Khartoum. The organisation, closely sympathetic with the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army, which has been waging war in the south for the last two years.

The 10 northerners in the cabinet are officially independent of the parties. They include several businessmen and United States diplomats that seem satisfied that they will continue a broadly pro-American policy.

The Prime Minister is Dr El Gizouli Dafalla, the head of the doctors association which

mounted several protests against Numeiri. The Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Mr Awad Abdel Majeed, is described as a conservative economist who was Governor of the Bank of Sudan until the mid 1970s when he fell out with Mr Numeiri. He served on the board of Barclays Bank International in London for a year before coming back to run a business importing farm machinery.

Amin Makki Madani, the minister of Construction is a lawyer whose firm has represented the American Oil Company, Chevron, which was developing the oil reserves discovered in the south before the civil war forced them to stop.

The new Foreign Minister, Ibrahim Taha Ayoub, is a career diplomat who was appointed by Mr Numeiri as ambassador in Nairobi until yesterday. He became an outspoken critic of Mr Numeiri.

Defence is in the hands of General Osman Abdullah Mohammed. Most immediate interest has centred on the three southern-

ers: Samuel Aru'ol, deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Irrigation, who was a member of the Political Bureau of the Sudanese Socialist Union, the party which Mr Numeiri created and which was the only real one. Peter Gatkuoth, Minister of Transport, who was appointed by Mr Numeiri as head of a caretaker government in the south in 1980.

and Oliver Albino, Minister of Public Service and Labour, a former minister in the south.

In announcing the cabinet on television, the chairman of

the Transitional Military Council, General Abdel Rahman Swarredhab, said it would be responsible to the TMC for "executive and administrative tasks".

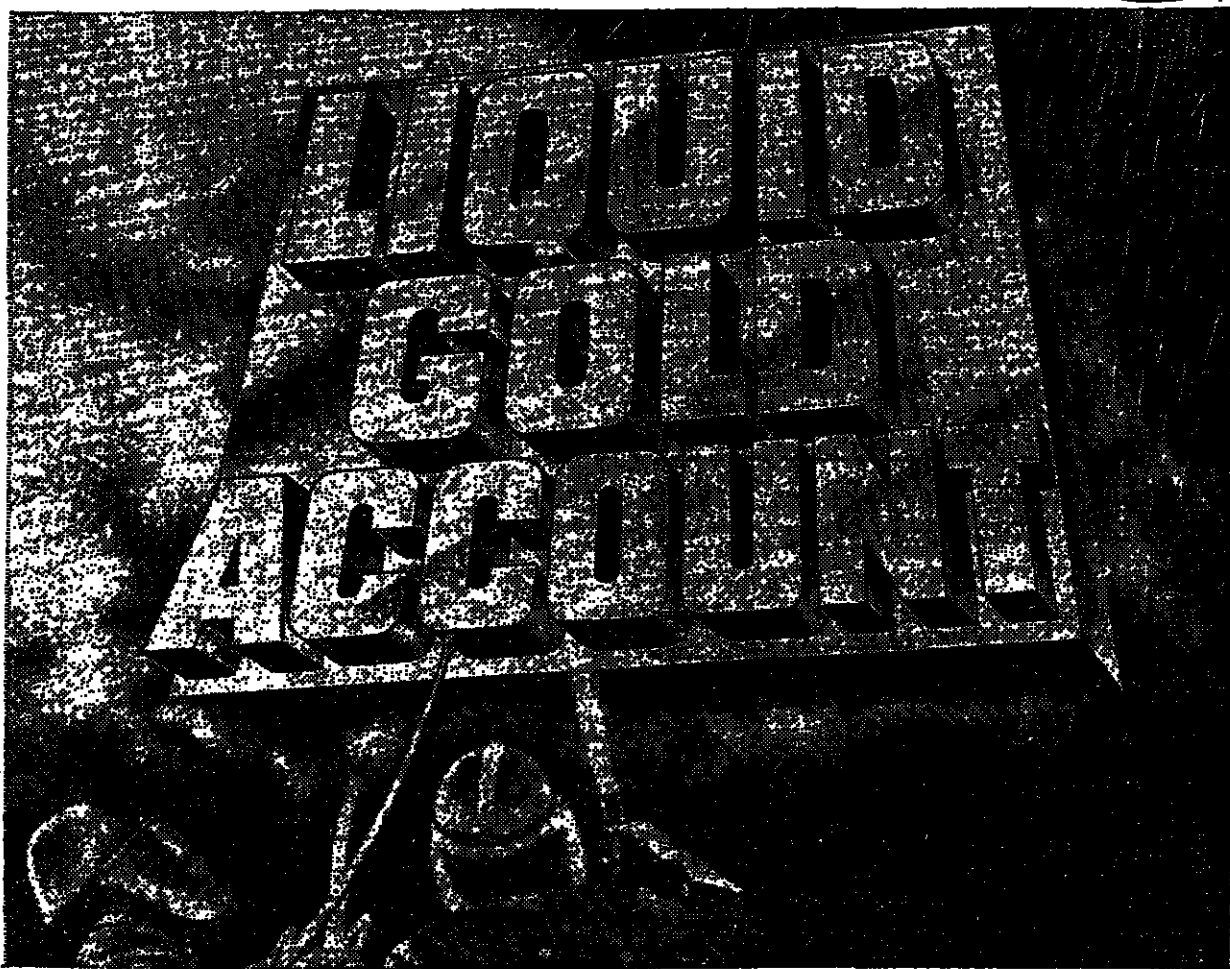
It would also "assist and lend advice". General Swarredhab and the cabinet would prepare for free and fair elections within a year.

Earlier suggestions that a cabinet place would be reserved for Colonel John Garang, the SPLA leader, have come to nothing.

John Garang's exclusion from the Sudanese cabinet may have been the result of the resumption of fighting by the SPLA (above).

Southern discomfort: John Garang's exclusion from the Sudanese cabinet may have been the result of the resumption of fighting by the SPLA (above).

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the Leeds PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY

Wellington gives police £1.5m for English rugby tour

By Michael Simmons

Concern that anti-apartheid demonstrations will disrupt the England rugby tour of New Zealand, which is due to start next month, is now such that Wellington has earmarked NZ\$4 million (about £1.5 million) for extra policing.

The demonstrations are thought highly likely as the tour will give the anti-apartheid lobby its last chance to make its views known before the New Zealand national team, the All Blacks, leaves for its proposed tour of South Africa in August. The Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, and other cabinet members have already said that they will lead anti-apartheid marches through Wellington and other cities.

Mr Lange has indicated his opposition to the New Zealand tour since he was elected last July, and only this month returned from an extensive tour of black Africa where he unequivocally told national leaders that he did not expect the tour to take place. He now has to reconcile the public wish to demonstrate, which he supports, with the government wish to maintain law and order.

Feelings are already running high about the New Zealand

Rugby Union's plans to press ahead with its tour. In 1981, when it hosted a South African team, virtually every game was disrupted, and hundreds of demonstrators clashed between police and demonstrators.

On that occasion, the level of protest was much higher than the Government had expected. Ministers now concede that there was a very large number of complaints against the police, and that social as well as political divisiveness, even within families, was among the unexpected results.

The government view now, which broadly coincides with that of the Halt All Racist Tours lobby, is that most New Zealanders will oppose the All Blacks tour. The England team's matches will give them an opportunity to confront the players with their point of view.

Ministers are already convinced, they say, that the cause of rugby — the main national sport in New Zealand — has been severely damaged. Several of the country's schools have switched from rugby to association football and some well-known coaches are seeking alternative outlets for their skills.

Rabat goes 'private'

Bordue...The new centre-right Government plans to pursue a bold privatisation policy in an effort to overcome economic difficulties, the Prime Minister, Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani, said.

In a statement to Parliament on Monday, he said "some economic sectors, nationalised after independence from France in 1956, would be gradually handed over to private enterprise."

The government coalition, named by King Hassan on April 1, envisaged "a bold policy of denationalisation to return to private enterprise everything that naturally belongs to it," he said.

Agriculture will be one of the first sectors involved and the 100,000 acres of French settler land, nationalised in 1973, are to be privatised. State firms will be rationalised and made more productive. — Reuters.

Mass grave discovered

From David Bradshaw in Algiers

The bodies of 62 men, women and children many bearing signs of torture, have been found in a mass grave in eastern Algeria, official Algerian sources say.

They are believed to have been victims of a collective punishment inflicted by the French army during the Algerian war of independence. The mass grave was found this month at Chelgoum El Aid, in the Atlas mountains, 200 miles east of Algiers.

A local man made the discovery after seeing a skull and some bones. Excavations are still going on and the size of the grave is not yet clear.

Doctors say the bodies are mainly those of women, children, and old people. Some had had their hands chopped off. The experts date their deaths at between 1958 and 1960 — the middle of the bitter eight-year independence war.

Christian militia pull out of Sidon

SIDON: Christian militiamen yesterday pulled out of frontline positions near this southern city, where they have been battling army troops and Muslim and Palestinian fighters for the past month.

Lebanese security sources said men of the Christian Lebanese Forces withdrew from Sidon's eastern suburbs to Magedioun, a Christian village a few miles inland. They were waiting for troops to take over the front lines before an expected evacuation by sea to Beirut sources said. Military sources said Sidon army would not move in until it could confirm that militiamen had left the area.

Sporadic shooting continued despite the Christian militia withdrawal and security sources said snipers killed two people and wounded three. Most of the firing was aimed at Wiyeh Miyeh, a Palestinian refugee camp just east of Sidon, they added.

More than 100 people have been killed and tens of thousands driven from their homes since sectarian fighting erupted in the Sidon area a month ago. The leader of the Lebanese Forces, Samir Geagea, yesterday declared a unilateral ceasefire in Sidon. The mayor of Sidon, Ahmed Kalash, said yesterday the truce would be successful only if all Christian militiamen left the area.

Muslim leaders met in Damascus to try to ease tension from last week's fighting in Beirut in which Shi'ite Muslim and Druze forces routed the Sunni Muslim Murabitoun militia. Lebanese Muslim leaders talked in Damascus with the Syrian Vice President, Abdel-Halim Khaddam, yesterday to try to heal a split caused by last week's factional fighting in West Beirut. — Reuters.

And the Beat goes on

THE BEAT GENERATION'S visionary, Allen Ginsberg, whose Howl in the mid-1950s was heard across astonished continents, the Hippie's Hero Incarnate, the Flower Children's apostle of Bliss — and mind-changing substances — is a very middle-aged gentleman now.

Can this really be Allen Ginsberg, the poet and voice who launched a hundred outrages, deported from Cuba and Prague, who went from Poland to Primrose Hill with his poetry? He sits unmoving in the restaurant that sits below the shoulder line is almost classically kempt now. The luxuriant beard cultivated like a halo has almost been shaved away. He wears a collar and jacket to the formal manner born.

Tomorrow the collected Allen Ginsberg, from 1947-1980, is published over here, a huge volume of some 800 pages, encased in a cover so sedate and sober that it would not be out of place for a volume of episcopal reminiscences.

But who goes for straight appearances now? The Allen Ginsberg under the skin is quite unchanged by time. In the 1940s Ginsberg saw himself as some later heir of Blake, Whitman and, perhaps, Ezra Pound. And right from his poetic beginnings until today (and the significant fact of being collected between hard covers) Ginsberg has lived a public life; his private life has been left private or hidden.

"The problem," he says, "was always to break down the barrier between the public and the private. Authoritarian governments thrive on secrecy, blackmail and intimidation. If poetry can include our actual lives and reveal the secrets of how we live, that would be a bulwark against the fascists."

Whatever criticisms may be made of Ginsberg as a poet, anyone leaving through this new record of his years will be struck by the consistency of his writing: those

Behind the jacket and tie, Allen Ginsberg, poet-prophet of the 50s and 60s, has lost none of his radical fury. Nicholas de Jongh reports

lamentations for an America of fierce wars, materialism and repression; those pleas for spontaneity of emotions and an unbridled record of his own (gay) life.

"Fascists and authoritarians right and left thrive on censorship, particularly on censorship of emotion and sex. If you have nothing to be blackmailed about, you are free to criticise the state." The Ginsberg private voice is quiet, schoolmasterly; and it's hard to imagine it reaching the exultant, lurid cries and incantations of his poetry reading style, as he expounds his conviction that candour should be the chief characteristic of the American poet.

Whitman he says could not do so in the days of certain laws which could not speak their name. And it is only in this definitive volume that even Ginsberg has finally published his *Many Loves*, which the dust jacket proudly describes as "an erotic chapbook" hitherto withheld "for reasons of prudence and modesty."

Ginsberg, looking back on his own sexual forays, reckons that his do not emerge as "much different from straight loves." Right from his teens he owned up sexually to that beguiling of the throwaway phrase "The Beat Generation" — Jack Kerouac, Kerouac, a heterosexual, to his fingertips, groaned and accepted. It was no issue or matter for criticism, though interestingly, Ginsberg uses the word "tolerant" to describe Kerouac's response to his teenage confession.

Neal Cassady, Beat Genera-

tion hero and the subject-matter of *Many Loves*, although he does not carry the substance, and is more interested in the principle of legislation than in using the drug himself in preference to alcohol. He stresses that he never acquired the fatal habit of heroin addiction and warns potential addicts that within the space of only two weeks the body becomes dependent on the stuff and dangerous changes take place in the metabolism. And he has cautionary words on acid as well.

Today's Ginsberg looks forward to the next six years in which he has been commissioned to write some six books. It will earn him about \$20,000, about half the salary of an American university professor. From the mid-60s until 1980 he was mainly living on the money he earned from poetry readings the world over.

Ginsberg has been a fabulous traveller in more than one sense. He has been in 17 states, revered in China, where he says that Howl has been taken as a comment on their own age of ideological agony. But during his period of greatest fame he calculates that he was only earning about half the salary of a high school teacher.

Fame may have been the spur which kept him going. But it was a special sort of craving. He wants converts with all the fervour of our own Prime Minister. I still fancy that he will win more the world over.

Tomorrow Allen Ginsberg reads in Covent Garden, P.O. Box 1, on Friday at 1.0 in the seminar room at the Institute of Contemporary Art. He is in conversation with R. D. Laing and will be reading from his poems.

Allen Ginsberg Collected Poems 1947-1980 Viking, £16.95.

wild and depraved Beatnik (the "nk" suffix was added by the San Francisco columnist in the age of the Russian sputnik) but a solid working fellow, who has been in market research.

He still smokes grass, though he does not carry the substance, and is more interested in the principle of legislation than in using the drug himself in preference to alcohol. He stresses that he never acquired the fatal habit of heroin addiction and warns potential addicts that within the space of only two weeks the body becomes dependent on the stuff and dangerous changes take place in the metabolism. And he has cautionary words on acid as well.

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OWNING UP: A sedate and sober Allen Ginsberg. Picture by Alan Titmuss

Edward Greenfield on how video can affect the quality of new recordings

Outlook clear, clouding over

IT IS a sign of the times that the most prestigious new recordings by Herbert von Karajan are now geared very closely to video projects. If that means more listeners for great music, I am all in favour. I begin to worry when the quality of sound is affected for the worse, and there are signs of that happening both in the new cycle of Beethoven symphonies, which Karajan has been recording with the Berlin Philharmonic, and also in his new recording of Verdi's *Requiem* with the Vienna Philharmonic (DG 451 091-2GH two CDs).

With video in mind Karajan's mode of recording now involves longer and longer takes, which with performers so meticulously rehearsed is all to the good, but the engineers have an even trickier time than before. Where in this powerful and warmly expressive performance of the Verdi Requiem the orchestra and soloists are generally well-focused, the full choral ensemble in the great outburst of the Dies Irae becomes a vague cloud of sound behind the rest.

Karajan's earlier Berlin recording of the Verdi Requiem, less dramatic and intense than the new one, was comparably marred by distant choral sound, but there at least the placing was clear. You might argue that with video to help precise placing is unnecessary. But that is to cancel out one of the important advantages of CD, which makes recorded sound more specific than ever before.

If you compare the new Karajan recording of the Dies Irae on CD with the brilliant CD transfer of the version which Sir Georg Solti recorded in 1967 (also with the Berlin Philharmonic) (Decca 411 944-2DH two CDs) the extra impact is extraordinary with every strand far clearer and the chorus full and powerful. With Joan Sutherland, Marilyn Horne, Luciano Pavarotti and Martti Talvela an outstanding team of soloists Solti's colourful, extrovert reading will for many remain the first choice.

Karajan's reading is more measured, more devoted. Where in his earlier Berlin account the slow speeds, smoothly polished lines and sumptuous textures sounded self-conscious, diminishing the intensity, the concentration this time is irresistible with an exceptionally well-matched quartet of soloists, all of them favourite singers of Karajan, Anna-Tomowa-Sintow, Agnes Baltsa, José Carreras and José van Dam.

As recorded van Dam's relatively light, bright bass comes over superbly in Mors stupebit, tense with wonder and apprehension, while similarly the clean projection of Baltsa makes up for any limitation in lower registers. Tomowa-Sintow gives us one of the warmest, most powerful performances she has ever recorded with the upper register firm and rounded. As for the choral

sound the Vienna State Opera Chorus, which form a nucleus, fares rather better than the Soda National Opera Chorus.

The latest instalment in Karajan's new Beethoven series couples the symphonies Nos 4 and 7 on a single CD (DG 415 121-2GH), a generous coupling that brings out the striking structural qualities that those works have in common, each with a long, slow introduction, an extended scherzo and a moto perpetuo finale. This time Karajan's readings are generally a degree more relaxed than before, usually at speeds a degree slower, allowing more spring in the rhythms.

The result is more joy but less electricity, and the less well-defined sound quality of the video-associated recording blurs the edges a little further. For example the dactylic rhythms at the start



Von Karajan: More devotional

of the Allegretto of No. 7 are barely identifiable in the first few bars. These shortcomings are only relative, and anyone wanting Karajan versions on CD should be well-pleased, though you have only to go to Ashkenazy's excellent version of the Seventh with the Philharmonia to appreciate the benefit of well-balanced Beethoven sound (Decca 411 941-2DH).

The quality of sound which Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic received from the engineers in the days before video and before the difficult acoustic of the Philharmonie in Berlin made extra problems comes out in some excellent CD transfers of Mahler symphonies, originally recorded in the Seventies.

Both the symphonies now issued — No. 5 coupled with Christa Ludwig singing Kindertotenlieder (415 096-2 two CDs) and No. 6 coupled with Ludwig singing the Rückertlied (415 099-2 two CDs) — are among the finest, most intense and refined Mahler performances on record, and the extra precision of CD makes them all the more powerful. You can get Solti in No. 5 on a single CD (Decca 414 321-2DH), but Karajan's is the more searching reading.

Scratch team

Tom Sutcliffe reviews King Priam at Covent Garden

TELEVISION
Hugh Hebert

House Of Lords

LORD HOME has not always been lucky with his timing, or his sense of public relations — he was, you remember, the only thing that came between 12 years of Conservative rule and six years of Labour, and he didn't manage to keep them very far apart. And there were all those matchsticks and something to do with holding Chamberlain's umbrella while the old chap signed an agreement.

Yesterday afternoon when, as he said himself, he had got his timing perfect, he was robbed again. Trained as the man to open the Lords debate on Soviet intervention in other countries' affairs, with BBC2 cleared of all competition, he was presented with the opportunity to shine when the government threw out a few more Russian spoils. He was after all the man who as Foreign Secretary threw out dozens of Communist diplomats at one go in the early 1970s.

As it turned out — they could schedule — his competition from Channel Four was Princess Anne, coming fourth in her very first horse race; and on BBC1 the quarter-finals of world snooker.

At Epsom, the veteran of all that evening was the merest novice. That's one of the things she said she found difficult," said the commentator, "being given a leg up." You sat goggling, and expected that she might be flown into the saddle by chopper instead, but she managed it.

And having got into the saddle stayed there while the Lords drowsed through questions awaiting the big event of the moment — Lord Home too would leap into the saddle. But I suspect that those noble Lords not actually on camera missed it anyway, pleading urgent business and probably watching Princess Anne explain

THE Royal Opera is celebrating Tippet's 80th year with an indifferently rehearsed revival of the 23-year-old Sam Wanamaker staging of *King Priam*. It seems very much a Fifties period piece now, with its bare Sean Kenny sets, its garish Greek costumes and all those Max Factor'd naked thighs.

Tippet's premieres were all at Covent Garden, but it's surprising — now that Opera Factory and Kent have demonstrated fresh and excit-

ingly convincing approaches to the problem of staging both Priam and not Garden couldn't bother to take a new look at this work.

An odd way of celebrating, too, when the conductor Elgar Howarth, is given no section rehearsal, has the scheduled rehearsal time cut, and finds his opening night orchestra have spent the entire day on recording sessions with Richard Bonynge.

I thought Howarth's conducting very stiff and lack-

ing in the kind of musical drive that Roger Norrington so thrillingly achieved with *King Priam*. The tutti helter-skelter string parts were breathless and scratchy — but no wonder. It's all credit to the score that, even last night, under-rehearsed, it can make its excitements felt. Both the fanfares and the scrunchy anguish managed to register.

There were some impressive newcomers (ten years after the show's last revival, there) led by the

marvellously incisive Hermes of Deon van der Walt. "Divine go-between, that's who I am," which is one of Tippet's funnier camp lines, does not lose its risible quality even when so finely sung. I was sorry incidentally, that some of the old comic chestnuts have been bowdlerised. "Prince Hector will want his bath" has become, "Prepare things for Prince Hector." You shouldn't try to clean up Tippet's quaint colloquialisms.

Kir Begley makes a vo-

cally strong Achilles, though not quite heroic enough for the war-cry. Hugh Hetherington impressed as the Young Guard. The women, led by Felicity Palmer's blood-curdling Annamacher and Anne Howell's alluring and luscious Helen, were very good. Robin Leggate makes a suitably effete but ringing Paris, taking over from the excellent boy Paris of Nicholas Shillito. A pity that Alexander Malta's Priam is so superficial.

THORNBURY
David Foot

Fascinating Aida

THORNBURY Arts Festival works hard within its financial constraints, to keep its base broad and its varied supporters happy. Fascinating Aida's appearance has been a sell-out and no one should be surprised. In a relatively short time these three girls, mischievously melodic, have become unquestionably the best of their kind.

If they are eventually a cabaret act, they still embrace the large functional Armstrong Hall at Thornbury with a measure of intimacy, enhanced by the way they wandered among us in good-humoured self-parody during the interval. They are sophisticated and intelligent performers with a style that is up, middle, and low market.

Their material, during which they send up the privileged and repeatedly themselves, is always sharp. Satire, as such, is minimal though they dare suddenly to slip in a more poignant anti-Thatcher piece of melancholic melody.

Fascinating Aida are girls of markedly contrasting builds and persons. They can harmonise particularly well; they poke fun at a range of female complexes and offer genuinely valid insight into, for instance, loneliness as in "Saturday on your own."

Their strength, quite apart from the songs and the figures — all well accompanied — is that they are natural performers. They project their comedy, their sly digs, and their character studies with the skill of actors.

Davis and the LSO Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*. Wilson-Johnson/Emma Johnson, St John's, Sunday 7.30. In aid of St Christopher's Hospice, the baritone David Wilson-Johnson is giving a joint recital with Emma Johnson the clarinetist who was BBC Young Musician of the Year. Wilson-Johnson sings Schubert and a new song by Michael Berkeley to 18th century words. Emma Johnson plays Brahms' E flat clarinet sonata and Debussy's first rhapsody.

ax in Chopin's piano concerto No. 2.
Rowicki/RPO/Fischer, Festival Hall, Tuesday 7.30. Davis/LSO/Bishop-Kovacevich, Barbican Tuesday 7.45. Rival performances of Beethoven's piano concerto No. 1 with the veteran Annie Fischer on the South Bank. Bishop-Kovacevich at the Barbican. Rowicki and the RPO also offer Petrushka, Sir Colin

CONCERT DATES

accompanist is the outstanding Hartmut Holl.
Rishop-Kovacevich, Elizabeth Hall, Sunday 3.0. The greatest of Schubert's late songs, the E flat D980, with Bartok's Out of Doors suite and Chopin nocturnes, mazurkas and the barcarolle.
Skrowaczewski/Halle/Ax, Festival Hall, Monday 7.30. Shostakovich's tenth symphony coupled with Emanuel

Memhin/ECO/Tallis Chamber Choir, Barbican, tonight 7.45. To celebrate his 68th birthday Memhin is presenting a Bach series. The 3 minor Mass provides tonight's climax, with Alison Hargen, Mira Zakai, Martin Hill and John Shirley-Quirk as soloists.
Skirra/Holl, Wigmore, tomorrow 7.30. Mitsuko Shirai from Japan, one of the most perceptive of young lieder-singers, in Haydn (English Canzonettas), Schumann, Schoenberg and Berg. Her

ALLURING: Anne Howell as Helen at Covent Garden. Picture by Douglas Jeffery

her six weeks' training. By a piece of gross indulgence — he showed a pear more than his ration of complementaries — Lord Whitlaw tried to hang out the moments. But he couldn't quite prevent the conflict between the Crown and the barons.

As Lord Home rose, the Princess was still at it, smiling and telling us how she prepared for this climactic moment and the noble Lord, never a man to upstage royalty, dismissed himself from the contest in the most gentlemanly way. He read out his motion. So that we only all breathe again and switch over to snooker.

SHAW
Kenneth Rea

Balinese Dance

THE Saba Sari dancers and musicians, touring Britain for Arts Worldwide, have an enchanting programme that

clearly shows why Bali has one of the most exciting dance forms in the world. It should not be missed.

The magic works from the moment the first dancer appears, glittering with gold, eyes flashing, fingers bent back and quivering, his body movements as crisp as an insect's, now rising to his toes in war-like stance, now pressing into the ground, with his knees spread wide.

A Saba villager's pride is the delicate Legong. This dance drama, performed by three young girls, is one of the most beautiful in all Bali. It is characterised by swooping, gliding movements, emphasised by the arched bodies of the girls, tightly bound with gold brocade.

But the greatest fascination comes from the Sendratari, a more tourist-orientated drama that wheels out the most popular aspect of Balinese dance without actually losing authenticity. There are masked clowns, whose chatter is interspersed with snatches of English and fragments of dance in which they parody their masters. Two masked demons, with wild eyes, menacing smiles, and absurdly long finger-

nails, meditate to destroy heaven. But the goddess appears, seductively stroking their hair until they lose concentration and fight a lover's duel over her.

The hilarity of this combat is capped by the breathtaking appearance of the Barong, a teeth-chattering, away-backed, glittering picture that occupies nearly the whole stage as it defeats the witch Rangda. It was a climax that rightly had a capacity audience cheering.

RAH/RADIO 3
Meirion Bowen

Davis/Mahler

THERE is always something exhilarating about the one or two performances we are allowed each year of Mahler's 8th Symphony. It isn't just seeing such a huge array of performers in action, or experiencing the sheer weight of vocal and orchestral sonority. Rather, it produces an awareness that we too can join the composer in leaving behind the

realms of darkness inhabited by his previous symphonies, and briefly share in a mood of creative self-confidence.

This was certainly the case in this account of the work conducted by Sir Colin Davis. Its opening setting of the hymn, Veni, Creator Spiritus, sprang along. The result was a clarity of vocal texture and rhythmic alertness that removed any hint of squariness in the patterning of the phrases.

Davis drew from the LSO the kind of sparkling detail we normally associate with the Berlioz of the Queen Mab scherzo. May be one has heard louder, and more imposing perorations, but this movement achieved the right perspective — a joyous, late romantic counterpart to the fervent outpourings of Bach's motets.

The synthesis of symphonic and dramatic techniques employed in the second part, a setting of the closing scene of Goethe's *Faust*, allow conductors plenty of scope for variation in emphasis. Davis's reading was perhaps closer to Goethe than to Mahler as such: often one became aware of echoes of The Magic Flute.

High quality choral singing

'Don't miss this' (Time Out)

Shared Experience
Pamela

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FINAL WEEK
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Skirra/Holl, Wigmore, tomorrow 7.30. Mitsuko Shirai from Japan, one of the most perceptive of young lieder-singers, in Haydn (English Canzonettas), Schumann, Schoenberg and Berg. Her

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Mr Meacher in sunshine and shadow

Mr Michael Meacher has had a difficult week. First, Labour's social services spokesman produced a new tax and benefits package for discussion which, because it dared to suggest the replacement of mortgage interest tax relief, was rubbishised by most of Fleet Street, disowned by the Labour right and seized upon with still undiminished glee by the Government from Mrs Thatcher down. Then Mr Meacher put his name to the jobs plans of the all-party Employment Institute, provoking, it is said, resignation threats from the Shadow Employment Minister, Mr John Prescott, and causing Mr Eric Heffer to dump a bucketful of verbal solids on his head for the second time in seven days. In Monday's Commons social security debate, Mr Meacher reiterated his tax and benefits schemes, thereby ensuring that it would be the Opposition's not the Government's, policies which would scoop yesterday's parliamentary headlines. It doesn't say a lot for Mr Meacher's tactical skills. It could all put his base in the party at some risk.

Yet before Easter, Mr Meacher was the flavour of the month with the Labour leadership. Ever since his unsuccessful deputy leadership bid against Mr Roy Hattersley two years ago, Michael Meacher has moved carefully towards the Kinnock fold. Along with Mr David Blunkett and Mr Tom Sawyer, he forms part of a group of penitent erstwhile Bennites on the national executive who provide an important left-wing buttress to the centre-right majority around Mr Kinnock. Mr Hattersley has not signed a peace treaty with Mr Meacher yet. But Mr Kinnock and his acolytes are full of praise for him. Even after the fracas about mortgage interest tax relief last week, Mr Kinnock appears to have been much less cross with Mr Meacher in private than some reports have suggested.

So where do the events of the last week and a half now leave our battered hero and, more important, the things that he stands for? In this regard, the embarrassment (if embarrassment it be) of involvement in the all-party jobs initiative is

likely to be short-lived. After all, Mr Meacher is not alone in the Shadow Cabinet in backing the Employment Institute. But the package of tax and benefits changes is another matter. Whatever Mr Kinnock's private feelings, he has done nothing publicly to support the ideas. That makes political sense if you believe that Labour's only route back to government is through the avoidance of political controversy. Mr Kinnock has consistently tried to move Labour towards realistic electoral commitments and to break with the scary monsters of the Benn era. That is the correct instinct for a party which, even today, faces an exceptionally serious electoral challenge before it can bid for power. But there are certain stubborn issues, of which reform of social security is a very major one, on which any alternative government must have alternative policies. And if it aims to be a radical alternative then it makes no long-term sense to run for cover as soon as someone mentions the words mortgage tax reform.

Yet that is what Mr Kinnock is doing over the Meacher plans. It needs to be repeated that these plans are not official policy and that nobody except their enemies has ever said otherwise. Undoubtedly the plans were released in an amateurish way. The impact of the package as a whole, not just of the mortgage tax component, upon specimen households in various income bands should have been calculated, so that people would know how they would be affected. And the total cost in public expenditure terms should have been prepared; at present the gross estimates range from £6.8 billion to Mr Norman Fowler's claim of £15 billion, though the net cost would be considerably less. Yet, even with all these qualifications, Mr Meacher's substantive ideas point unequivocally in the right direction. It is right, from a rational point of view, that mortgage relief along with all other personal taxes, allowances and benefits, should be counted in when reform is contemplated. It is right, from a redistributive point of view, that it should be replaced by a fairer and less regressive housing subsidy system. Mr Fowler is about to unveil a system which will intensify existing inequalities by, among other things, major reductions in housing benefit expenditure and abolishing supplementary benefit awards for mortgage payments. The Opposition must not respond to Mr Fowler's green paper by simply defending the shambolic status quo. They must have

an alternative. Mr Meacher is trying to provide one. Mr Kinnock should support that effort, not disown it.

The embassy carousel

As London and Moscow boost airline revenues sending home each other's diplomats tit-for-tat, the British Government has concluded that there is not much to be done about diplomatic transgressions. Yesterday's White Paper on diplomatic immunities and privileges adds nothing to the report of the parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee in January. But the Government accepts most of the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee and, try as we might, we can see no useful additional measure against abuse of diplomatic status which would not rebound adversely on our own diplomats in sensitive posts. The current row with the Russians proves the point, even though it is not much more than a storm in a samovar.

Diplomats are licensed gatherers of information about their host country, protected by the 1961 Vienna Convention which, quite rightly in a dangerous and violent world, brooks no interference with diplomatic immunity. Many missions contain members of the sending country's intelligence service. It is up to the Foreign Office and the Security Service to spot such people and to move against them when they cross the invisible line between legitimate curiosity and outright espionage. Even though we have not been told what the expelled Russians got up to, previous experience makes us pretty confident that they must have gone over the top. Happily the Convention does not require the expelling government to give any reason for declaring a diplomat persona non grata. In the end that is by far our best defence against dubious envoys. But we may also be certain that the KGB still has plenty of agents left here to carry on the great work of spying on the Brits. We know, they know we know, and we know they know we know. (Just as we have agents in Russia, they know we have agents there — and so on).

The trick is to maintain, and in our case to increase, vigilance towards the dodgy foreign missions in London. The embassies of the Soviet Union and its allies are a special problem, not only because

they represent an opposed ideology but also because of the ancient Russian appetite for infinite information. We may be sure that the KGB gets the vast majority of its information on Britain, for what it is worth, from published sources of the kind Soviet censorship suppresses in advance back home. The sheer bulk of information on offer in an open society must make a KGB man's mouth water on arrival but is very likely to give him severe mental indigestion before long. It is not what you find out, even by suborning moles, that counts, but what you correctly identify as important, and what you then do with it. Hard though it may be for a congenitally secretive governmental system like ours to accept this, one of the best insurances of our security lies in the very mass of public information available to the bemused foreign observer. The Government's determination to apply the Convention as strictly as possible is probably enough, if alertness can be sustained, to deal with an often overstated problem. When in doubt, chuck 'em out — so long as one is prepared to accept the usually entirely predictable consequences.

Two motors ticking over

Nissan's agreement with the AUEW for single union representation at the plants now under construction at Washington, Tyne and Wear may turn out to be a turning point for British motor manufacturing, leapfrogging over many of the tye-cast ingredients of the British disease. One can, one overall for all staff, uniform working conditions and holidays, single union, no job demarcation, decision-making works councils and as near as anyone dare say, a no-strike agreement. Of course, as Arthur Scargill reminded us recently, an industrial union is not, of itself, a guarantee of industrial peace. But the Japanese have an impressive track record in this country of transcending the class attitudes which have bedevilled continuity of production.

It is a bit late to argue that motor manufacturing in the UK should never have reduced itself to the stage where imports account for nearly 60 per cent of the market and the industry's balance of payments (imports less exports) has swung to a deficit of £2.3 billion last year from a surplus of £1.6 billion in 1976. That is

where we are now. Even successful corporations (in terms of profitability) like Ford (UK) still record a negative balance of payments despite efforts to source more from inside Britain. New entrants like Sun-Clair have found the going... well, a little bit more difficult than they thought. British Leyland — with under 20 per cent of the market, that is half of what it had 15 years ago — has disappointed the hopes of its supporters. But at least it is still there. Whatever it costs to rescue BL, less than the cost, in terms of unemployment, of pay and foregone output, of not saving it. Now British Leyland too, through its growing links with Honda, is seeking a Japanese solution.

Those in the industry who see the growth of Japanese production facilities here as a Trojan horse are partly right and partly wrong. Wrong because, if the Trojan horse did not come to this country, it would assuredly have gone somewhere else in Europe where it would be even greater threat since it would be exporting into Britain instead of, as now planned, exporting out and replacing present imports. But right in that, if UK manufacturers do not respond to the new Japanese challenge (as General Motors has in the US by changing over to Japanese techniques), then they will lose an even bigger share of the dwindling UK market. The main threat will come not with phase one of the Nissan plans (assembling kits from Japan) but with the more ambitious second stage producing upwards of 100,000 cars a year. Nissan — and there is no reason to doubt their goodwill — hopes that 70 or 80 per cent will be of local content. Strictly speaking "local" means Common Market, but competitive UK firms will get the first bite.

It is now up to British component firms (already enjoying a minor resurgence in terms of their contribution to the balance of payments) to improve efficiency further by hitching themselves to Nissan's expansion. But the Government — which played a credible role in attracting Nissan here — also has a role to make sure that BL is not starved of funds just when it needs to brace itself for the Japanese challenge. The Government is forcing BL to sell off subsidiaries which are profitable, but it appears reluctant to sanction an extra £200 million of investment which the company regards as necessary. It is one thing to encourage Japanese investment in the UK. But quite another to make it even easier by pulling the rug from under the feet of our main domestically owned manufacturer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A sour note on Handel

Sir—Many of Professor H. C. Robbins' London's comments on Handel's Vespers music as quoted by Michael Morris ("Handel discovery causes discord among experts"; April 18) are silly. If there is any gnashing of teeth among the "Handelian establishment" (who they?) it is probably because of Professor Landon's disinclination to separate fact from fantasy.

All Handel lovers are surely delighted that manuscripts containing two previously inaccessible Vespers settings have been found at Milan and at Manchester, and there is no question that the Manchester collection owned by Mr Peter Plummer is of great value and importance.

Perhaps Professor Landon is covering up a little gnashing of his own, having instituted a project to publish a compilation called "Handel's Roman Vespers" without making a preliminary announcement or even a few private enquiries, and hence failing to take account of new research. (The existence of the Milan manuscripts was known to Handel scholars in 1983 and news of Mr Plummer's discovery was circulating at least six months before Professor Landon's team at Cardiff changed to hear of it early last November.)

Handel certainly wrote five pieces for the 1707 Roman festival of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, but if normal practices were being followed they would have been spread over three different services (the newly found antiphons for Vespers—held on the eve of the feast: a motet for mass; and two psalms for Second Vespers).

No evidence exists to support the suggestion that two pieces composed earlier by Handel (the psalm Dixit Dominus and the antiphon Salve Regina were also used on this occasion. Even if all seven pieces are counted and assumed to belong to one service, the group does not in itself constitute a Vespers. The reference to Dixit dominus as a "cornwall" piece is perhaps only a groundswell for choral, but could it be that Professor Landon has found Handel's long-lost Arthurian Vespers?—Yours faithfully, Anthony Hicks, London W5.

Concepts of freedom that may break the NCCL

Sir—Hugo Young (Guardian, April 22) asks the wrong question. What "the left," the NCCL, and indeed all of us have to decide is not primarily how much "liberty" to believe in, but what sort of liberty to advocate. Mr Young's criticism of the NUM's failure to observe "basic" libertarian principles and his recommendation that the NCCL should show a "commitment to a political philosophy" is so much utopian sophistry. Such a stance is, moreover, overtly political. Liberty is not a neutral commodity that may be quantified. It is merely an ideological creation.

The debate about liberty has involved a confusion of means and ends, theory and practice, and propaganda and ideology. For the liberal—and, perhaps, the liberal conservative—individual liberty means to achieve the higher end of genuine freedom—an equality of freedom. Such is the ideological debate.

The concept of a neutral, basic, apolitical liberty is, then, the product of a creative imagination, like the painting that is observed but not touched, admired but not wanted, that intrigued but was never understood. Is the problem of liberty an academic question, or still worse, a question for academics to argue about in their everyday life, in the political arena the conflict continues. It is not a struggle for a desirable quantity of freedom but between different

late traditional and exclusively possessed freedoms. Individual liberty is desirable to the socialist also. However, since freedom implies choice and choice implies opportunity, for the socialist a redistribution of opportunity is achieved through collective action—a prerequisite to individual liberty. Collective action which may at times impinge on the nebulous and generally unexercisable ideals of libertarianism, is a necessary means to achieve the higher end of genuine freedom—an equality of freedom. Such is the ideological debate.

The concept of a neutral, basic, apolitical liberty is, then, the product of a creative imagination, like the painting that is observed but not touched, admired but not wanted, that intrigued but was never understood. Is the problem of liberty an academic question, or still worse, a question for academics to argue about in their everyday life, in the political arena the conflict continues. It is not a struggle for a desirable quantity of freedom but between different

concepts of freedom. This is the tension with the NCCL which threatens to burst it asunder.—Yours sincerely, Dexter Dias, Collingwood College, University of Durham.

Sir—Melissa Benn and her co-signatories ("Civil Liberties on the block," Guardian, April 19) are individuals who have made substantial contributions to the work of the National Council for Civil Liberties. However, their view that the interim report of the NCCL-established inquiry into the policing of the miners' dispute, of which I am a member, went well beyond its agreed terms of reference requires argument not mere assertion.

The terms of reference of the inquiry do indeed focus attention on the role of the police, the police authorities and the criminal courts. Members of the inquiry have to defend them against those who have argued that they were intended to bias the inquiry towards an exclusive condemnation of the police and ought to have included explicit mention of allega-

tions of violence by those engaged in the dispute. We have had no difficulty making that defence in good conscience, and the interim report made clear our position.

Allegations regarding actions of the police and the machinery of criminal justice, as those of public agencies invested with the authority of the community, are proper matters for an inquiry. Allegations regarding the actions of private individuals or organisations are a matter for law enforcement, and not for such an inquiry.

But our terms of reference refer to establishing "the fullest possible account and the civil liberties implications of the role of the police... in the events arising from and relating to the NUM dispute." There is no disagreement that these events included violence by the police and by those engaged in the dispute. To say this is not to equate them, and we made clear that our final report would need to consider the chronology of cause and ef-

fect. It is also necessary, within the terms of reference, to take a view both on whether and when the police had a public duty and a civil liberties responsibility to enable working miners to travel to work.

Our interim report thus stated the obvious in saying that "the police do not act in a vacuum, and any sensible examination of the policing of the strike must take fully into account the circumstances which have shaped the context of police actions and their objectives."

Around these issues, there may be disagreements both regarding the balance of evidence and regarding the proper application of civil liberties principles. But there is no serious case for asserting that to consider them was or is to exceed the inquiry's terms of reference.—Yours sincerely, Ian Martin, 22 Sidney Square, London E1.

After Lebanon Israel still treads the path of peace

Sir—Michael Adams correctly reports (Agenda, April 22) that there has been much criticism in Israel of the Lebanon war. He is wrong, though, to conclude that this represents a fundamental shift in Israeli thinking on a wider issue.

Critics of the war are themselves divided. Some were opposed to action in Lebanon of any kind; others say the aims of the war were fully justified, but that the operation was badly conceived and badly executed.

Then, those who criticise the war are doing just that and little more. They hold a variety of opinions on other matters, such as the West Bank, and there is no evidence that among the critics there has been any convergence of views on these issues.

Most important, though, is whether the Lebanon war affected Israel's attitude towards peace. For years now, Israel's Labour Party has declared its readiness to negotiate with anyone who genuinely recognises Israel and wants peace. When asked if this includes the PLO, the answer has invariably been that if the PLO renounces terror and its declared aim of destroying Israel then it will not be "the same" PLO, implying thereby that the Palestinians and the PLO do have room for manoeuvre.

More explicitly, Prime Minister Peres has recently called for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to negotiate with Israel. He has declared that while this should not include known PLO activists, there is no barrier to him meeting with any Palestinians and further, that they can propose any solutions they choose.

In short, Israel's offers to negotiate peace have long been on the table—and still are.—Yours faithfully, Barry Shenker, Britain/Israel Public Affairs Committee, 126/134 Baker Street, London W1.

Sir—You are correct in believing that the Lebanon is in a condition of imminent disintegration, but the remedy you imply in your remarks (Leader, April 18), hardly bears examination. You have shown remarkable consistency in trouncing Israel for its desire to retain control over a strip of Lebanese territory for the safety of its people, but you appear to think that Syria has a prescriptive right to the whole of the Lebanon. Why, then, are the various factions in the Lebanon conducting an internecine civil war amongst themselves?—Yours sincerely, J. L. Handeles, 13 Laburnum Lodge, Hendon Lane, London N3.

Miscellany on the beat

Sir—The ingenuity of the Metropolitan Police force in deflecting attention away from their appalling detection rate should not go unchallenged.

In Sir Kenneth Newman's 1985 report, we learnt that there had been a 14 per cent increase in the clear-up rate for burglary. This rather peculiar statistical manoeuvre disguised the fact that the clear-up rate had increased from 9 per cent to 10 per cent. Now, Sir Kenneth Newman claims, in his address to the International Fire Security and Safety Exhibition that the clear-up rate has increased by 23 per cent (Guardian, April 16).

This claim is clearly not based on the 1984 figures so where does it come from? Does Sir Kenneth mean that the Metropolitan Police now fail to clear up only 89 per cent of burglaries?—Yours Dr Martin Loney, Open University, Milton Keynes

Sir—I agree that the London Marathon is quite an event, but by no means is it "the most popular event in British sport" (Guardian, April 22). The Great North

Run run from Newcastle to South Shields has had over 18,000 finishers in each year since 1982, and last year an extraordinary 24,183 people finished the race including myself.—Yours, Ian Pollitt, Sale, Manchester.

Sir—Why should the nation spend over £8 million on The Adoration of the Magi? We already have one on show in Cambridge which we bought some years ago. And then again, the whole original expedition of which this picture is a representation of only one incident, was one on a budget of a tiny fraction of this cost.—Yours faithfully, Rev. Paul Robinson, Wallasey, Merseyside.

Sir—My personal motif, and one that has stood me in good stead these several years: beneath a scribe couchant (face down upon the desk)—a device of my own design—the motto "Duit on mon del."—Yours faithfully, Maurice Geller, 33 Seagrave Road, London SW6.

Voting styles that do not speak for democracy

Sir—As one who has served at all levels of the trade union movement, I have a close acquaintance with ballots of several kinds. I can assure you that the success or failure of elections depends not so much on their secrecy as on the voters. The purpose of a ballot must be to obtain a representative result. The present government is not representative of the electorate even if the distribution of seats in Parliament was more just. It would simply be more representative, but not absolutely so.

Members of my union branch who happened to work with me while often brought their postal ballot forms to me saying: "What do I do with this, Bill?" When I said "fill it in" they would often reply, "I don't know any of these people. I don't know who to vote for. You do it for me, and post it, Bill. I trust you—you know these people; I don't."

My members who did this were those who cared not a bit. Those who cared not at all, just didn't vote. They never attended branch meet-



ings. They hardly ever read the union journal.

There are activists in every constituency. Without them there would be tyranny by consent. An organisation belongs to those people who work for it, and use it. It doesn't matter what kind of voting system there is, because those who prefer to be served rather than to serve, don't as a rule vote. They can't because the don't know who to vote for, or what.

I believe it is the non-voters that certain politicians with their eyes on the pathways to power think it might be possible to manipulate by their use of good friends in

the "media." If someone or something can be shown in a light as rather unspeakable, it could easily be presented as rather praiseworthy to vote against it.

Postal ballots might be less subject to direct manipulation, but they will be more subject to indirect manipulation by people who, as of now, have no influence at all, except, perhaps, over the uncommitted and unconvinced, legitimate target for the PR industry and the press it can buy.—Yours, Bill Court, Great Wakering, Southend on Sea, Essex.

Masochistic admiration that weakens the anti-Thatcher lobby

Sir—There is internal contradiction in Paul Gerrard's attack on Professor Hobbsawm (Letters, April 19) which requires clarification.

While rejoicing that "young professional workers are joining the trade unions in considerable numbers," he also suggests that victory eluded the miners because of "the pusillanimity of the so-called New Realists in the TUC."

In fact, the lack of coherent support for the miners stemmed more from other union leaders' inability to deliver the active commitment of their memberships than

from the TUC itself — which, of course, has no power to dictate to its affiliates.

The growing membership of the unions listed by Mr Gerrard should not be taken necessarily to indicate a positive move against the present government. It could, on the contrary, signify a dilution of the already weakened coherence of trade union opposition to government policies. Indeed, the Prime Minister would positively welcome enlarged unions of this sort: enfeebled, divided, "moderate". Incredibly, many individual trade unionists have a

respect and masochistic admiration for the Prime Minister which is making wholehearted and united opposition difficult or impossible to accomplish by individual union leaders.

Without indulging in the vulgarity of character assassination, it is time for those who wish to end the suffocation of our national spirit by Margaret Thatcher and her government to begin to expose the popular mythology which surrounds her.

The frailty of a narrow mind has been presented as a strength of purpose. Vacancy of imagination is made to resemble conviction. Per-

sonal contempt for large sections of the British population is put across as iron strength.

Until we can see, all of us, in its appalling clarity, the shallow, vain and disrespectful leadership we have brought upon ourselves, both Professor Hobbsawm and Paul Gerrard can continue to discuss just how much left-wing solidarity can balance on the population of a needle while the population of a large country is to be mesmerised by the deceptive public images of the Prime Minister.

Ian Flintoff, London SW8.

An SS father

Sir—My grandmother committed suicide when the SS came to take her to Auschwitz. My uncle held a higher rank in the Nazi Party than Princess Michael's father. The one gives me no more ground for pride than the other for shame.

The question I am faced with is: "How much am I doing to stop today's torturers and executioners?" That, arguably, is what Robert Maxwell might properly have asked Her Royal Highness. She, in turn, would have every right to ask it of him. Paul Oestreicher, 10 The Green Road, London, SE12.

A COUNTRY DIARY

OXFORDSHIRE: On a recent calm and very sunny morning I had a hunch that there would be a hatch of aquatic insects, and therefore set out with visions of swarms of swallows and martins, and possibly early swifts and marsh terns, to greet me when I arrived at the reservoir. I was right with regard to the insects, for swarms of large chironomid flies were on the wing or (presumably newly hatched specimens drying out) sunning themselves on the walls and concrete banks of the pools. But there was

not a single swallow, martin or yellow wagtail present to take advantage of the abundant food. One fact which I suspect was directly connected with the hatch of flies was the presence of around 200 black-headed gulls, not normally to be found in such numbers during daytime at this season. Some were feeding as they swam or floated, while others were swooping around in tern-like fashion, and I feel sure the sizeable midges were the attraction. Then I flushed a turnstone, in summer plumage, from the flat top of a low wall, and it

flew only a little way ahead before again settling on the wall and proceeding to follow a zigzag course forward, constantly pecking to right and left. Normally, as in the case of the common sandpiper I had already seen, visiting waders confine their attention almost entirely to the water's edge. The opportunity of movable objects in the absence of more obvious prey, had found an even more rewarding feeding procedure — merely walking along and making a clean sweep.

W. D. CAMPBELL.

SOCIETY TOMORROW

Wednesday April 24 1985 13

We may be faced with the paradox that we need sickness to make us whole, says Ann Shearer as she reflects on the meaning of illness

Maybe we need healers who recognise that one important part of their job can be to announce that what the patient is actually suffering from is life

WHY ME, doctor? And why now? And what, doctor, does this illness mean? The questions aren't, and in current searching, there could, perhaps and tentatively, be the start of a revolution in our national health of a sort that hasn't been seen for a century and more.

Time was, and not so long ago either, when the answers seemed, if not pat, at least coherent enough, cause and effect catalogued ever more neatly, as clinicians explained the workings of the human machine and epidemiologists amassed ever more efficiently their statistics. And didn't that seem good enough cause for gratitude, as we learned to put our bodies in for service, to go to the symptoms removed at the back part out away, even replaced — and the doctors seemed confident that more of the same would mean more cure?

But these days, as we know, the mechanical model of medicine is showing its cracks, its remedies their limitations. People are sensing it as they increasingly hedge their bets with a galaxy of alternative therapies.

Doctors have set up the British Holistic Medical Association, the BMA, is finding that it can't dismiss the movement out of hand. At the very least, we can discern an unease with mechanistic medical approaches on both sides of the therapeutic fence. And maybe it's time to move beyond the question "Why?" to ask "What for?"

This month's Dartington conference was on the meaning of illness and it asked just that, and an extraordinary occasion it was too. It was so heavily booked and overbooked as to suggest that it's time to look more seriously for some new answers. Add in its bringing together patients, alternative practitioners and doctors, it edged towards a definition not just of illness but the healing arts themselves that goes way beyond the limits to which we've become accustomed.

We all have to die of something

Take, for just one instance of contemporary urgency, the heart disease which leads to some 600,000 heart attacks in Britain each year, a fifth of them fatal. The mechanisms of failure in that essential pump we can understand; the epidemiologists can present to us the statistical likelihood of the consequences of over-eating, under-exercising and otherwise abusing the body it maintains. Yet put together 100 men who seem on this basis prime candidates for heart attack within three years, and what happens? No fewer than 92 of them simply don't oblige.

So medicine has learned to incorporate the psyche as well as the soma, to identify the Type A behaviour which seems connected to heart disease in aggressive, competitive men (and increas-

ingly women) who strive to achieve more and more in less and less time, convinced that they are valued more for what they do than who they are.

This much is familiar enough. But what now is the meaning of heart disease? Not just a mechanical fault, but a compensation, an attempt of nature itself to restore in the individual a balance between doing and being, a reminder that the heart is not just that essential pump, but the seat of the feeling which may have been denied. And if the illness then brings its message to the individual, maybe it brings one to society itself.

In a world that values so strongly the "masculine" qualities of aggression, competition, achievement, success, that has made more of sex without commitment than it has of love, is there an urgent need for a re-evaluation of the "feminine" qualities of acceptance, of being, of relatedness, for society's own healing or maybe even salvation?

Or take, for another contemporary and no less urgent instance, cancer. Why me, doctor? For the individual, is there more meaning in reflecting that infectious disease conquered, we all have to die of something — or in wondering what impulse to growth has been frustrated and so turned destructive and so may be honoured. And why now, doctor, this epidemic? At the end of the 19th century, when it seemed newly obvious that disease was car-

ried in germs that attacked the body from outside, the major political preoccupation was with protecting national frontiers from enemy attack.

These days, the enemy is within. It is the threatened breakdown of social harmony and organisation within the body politic that concerns us most. Is individual illness an exception too, or what the collective needs to address?

Maybe all this is a thicket of fantasy thrown up to make endurable what has become the hardest truth of all: that death is finally unavoidable. But maybe, too, it isn't. Out of the discussions among those diverse healers, gathered at Dartington, there seemed the beginnings of a convergence whose implications could be truly revolutionary.

For what would it mean if illness were not, after all, the great enemy, but instead an ingredient no less essential than health in the journey towards individual and collective wholeness on which we may be embarked? Just as for individuals illness may alert to imbalances that need attention and offer an opportunity for reflection and growth, so it may for society itself. We may be faced with a paradox: we need sickness to make us whole.

If this is so, then the role of the healer is very different from the one most often put on with the white coat and stethoscope. For healing is not necessarily synonymous with cure at all; helping people to find the meaning of

their illness may be as important to them and to society itself as helping them suppress their symptoms as quickly as they may.

So maybe what we need is places where people can ask "What for?" and where collective healing rituals can be performed. Maybe we need healers who recognise that one important part of their job can be to announce that what the patient is suffering from is actually life (and the person who said that is an NHS general practitioner).

Maybe we need a recognition (and this came from a doctor, too) that the medicine we have so trustfully called scientific is in fact a collection of nuggets of empirically discovered things held together by beliefs and ideas which alone have no meaning.

Maybe from there we need to look far more searchingly at the elements of belief and ideas that make any therapeutic intervention work. Why, for instance, does homeopathy, based on the logically nonsensical approach that the potency of medicines increases as the active element in the brew decreases, work so powerfully for those for whom it does? What is the healing potency in the notion of flows of energy which underpins Eastern systems and is coming nearer home as Western physicians uncover mysteries of relationship between energy and matter?

At a time when just about every bookshop, night school

and food store in the land can attest to the desperation of people who have taken these sorts of musing very much to heart. In a world where even ageing has become a medical speciality — and so a sickness — and high-tech medicine has turned even death into "failed cardiac resuscitation," there's clearly a way to go. But there are stirrings.

In this page reported last week it is at the heart of high-tech medicine itself that Charing Cross Hospital is looking more closely at the meaning of heart disease and so treatment that goes beyond the mechanical to the healing of feeling in its patients.

There are psychotherapists who can attest to people's ability to seek out the symbolic meaning of their own disease and the healing effects of that. It is where high-tech medicine seems so often stumped that we are seeing — most notably in the power generated by cancer self-help groups — the beginnings of these collective healing rituals.

And though it may be the doctors who sounded the warnings against partial enthusiasms most clearly, it's among them too that the rumblings of discontent are perhaps most significant. If one paradox is to do with the healing nature of illness, then another is the one that they are living every day of their professional lives. They are, after all, in a trade that is interesting, highly rewarded, secure and socially admired. Yet they are also among the least healthy of the professions, the most prone — especially if women — to fatal addictions, to suicide, to emotional distress.

One of the most striking things of all at the Dartington conference was the strength of bitterness among the doctors against a training that denied their humanness and a convention of practice that no longer suffices, against a

strait-jacket of perception that locks them into appearing all-powerful and the patient as all-dependent.

"People complain that doctors don't treat them as human beings. But when are they going to stop seeing me as a machine?" That special-ist from the teaching hospital maybe spoke for a whole lot of his colleagues.

He did, perhaps the revolution isn't so distant after all, for it is when the medical profession starts to demand a shift that the structures will start to change. Of course there's a way to go, when the jealousies among the different brands of healer, as one ruefully pointed out, can make the night of the long knives seem like a tea-party.

Doctors are only just starting, it seems, to accept that although they could do well to learn more about the skills there is going to come a point when they have to admit that other people may do some things better than they will ever be able to do.

The question then — and perhaps even now — is what sort of structures for healing are we going to need. Already it's clear that the move towards self-healing, the search for new and more holistic therapies, could suit the politicians who believe in the notion of a national health service very well indeed.

If the healing is truly to be of the collective rather than of the individual, then the debates on the future of the NHS are maybe deeper than we have yet realised.

GOVERNMENT statements on "partnership" invoke a glowing marriage between local authorities and the private and voluntary sector, in child-care at least. But how successfully is this working in practice?

Of the £27,011,930 invested in urban aid this year, about one quarter is spent on 229 projects for under-fives, including nursery classes, playgroup support, nurture groups, family centres, community nurseries, childminding, provision for handicapped children, toy libraries and training and support for staff.

But by far the bulk of this money has been used directly by local authorities to extend their own services — more than £8,000,000, for example, on straight extensions of nursery education. Only 31 of the 229 projects are voluntary, and only five are run jointly by local authority and voluntary organisation.

Why is so much urban aid money going directly to local authorities? Provision is concentrated where urban decay is greatest: London boroughs, the Midlands, the North-west and Tyne and Wear. These are areas where services are under most acute pressure, and where local authorities are desperate to meet local needs, and have been using whatever money they can lay their hands on.

The authorities who receive most money under the urban programme are also those facing the severest block grant penalties and rate-capping for providing services which the Government has said, wearing another cap, are too generous.

Urban aid was intended to generate self-confidence, to promote the community's own ability to resource itself — the 1960s notion of pump-priming. But child-care is not a profit-making enterprise, and the urban aid projects, however much they may have involved the local community, have not become financially self-sufficient; in almost all of them the local authority must pick up the bill if they are to survive. This year, 37 urban aid funded child-care projects are due to fall out, with a further 61 next year and 93 in 1987/8. But local authorities can no longer meet the bill; if they do they will be subject to penalties for overspending.

In other child-care partnership initiatives the future is still bleaker. Two years ago the Government launched its "under-five initiative" — £22 millions a year for three years, intended to stimulate the voluntary sector. But the tiny Children's Department at the DHSS had no precedents for locating and allocating money to small local groups, as the initiative intended. It took a year to get hold of the information, and to decide how to distribute the money, which is still underpenned.

There were no clear criteria, so hard-pressed local groups submitted applications which the minister was

Who is to care for small children? Helen Penn examines attempts to establish local cooperation, while, below, Peter Moss wonders why the Government is keeping quiet about an attempt to bring fathers into the act

How children became unequal partners



Acroyd children: a perfect example of partnership. (Picture by Garry Weaver)

not prepared to consider because in some unspecified way, they "did not fit".

In the end, the Government decided to bypass structures altogether and revive a little-known organisation, NCVCO (National Council of Voluntary Child Care Organisations), with no track record of community involvement and no democratically accountable management structure, to act as its main agency for distributing the initiative money and indeed for coordi-

nating its other partnership initiatives.

Many local authorities have also taken on board the concept of partnership, and offer community grants for local groups. The biggest of these programmes in child-care is the GLC's, which is rather larger than the Government initiative, with £3.6m a year set aside. The GLC did at least have clear and widely-publicised criteria, which stressed the involvement of local women.

This child-care programme

has been by far the most successful in stimulating a range of imaginative provision, and in tackling some of the issues which have been ignored in mainstream provision — racism, sexism, integration of handicapped children, and rethinking group care for babies.

However, it has been almost too successful, in that it has been inundated with applications, far beyond its ability to cope.

What all these funding pools illustrate is that for

partnership to work productively in child-care certain prerequisites are necessary: a sound administrative base, an infrastructure of monitoring and support, clearly spelt out criteria, an accountable and open system of distribution of funds; and not least, some guarantee of continuity. But these lessons in partnership are being ignored.

The Government appears to have as its model for partnership the Victorian philanthropic charities, in which private firms and rich individuals

supplied the money, and women volunteers with income support supplied the free labour. This model certainly does not fit inner-city areas now, where resources for regeneration cannot be provided ad hoc but need planning, systematic financing and democratic accountability. In any case private money is not there.

The concept of partnership with the private sector in child-care is at its crudest when applied to childminding. Whatever its virtues, this operates least well in inner-city areas, where it is a service for poor women by poor women. To work decently, it needs extensive support services, equipment, training and meeting places for minders and subsidies for hard-pressed parents, for whom it may represent more than 25 per cent of weekly income. But such services put childminding in the same cost league as nurseries.

The DHSS has now imported the concept of resource and referral centres, from the US — where there is either no registration or licensing required for minders, or where it is so minimal as to be pointless. These centres, run by charities and volunteers, keep lists of minders for incoming parents, and offer support services. The 1968 Childminding Act requires social services departments to make such information available, although few have the resources to keep up to date lists, such is the turnover in this private market. The DHSS argument is that parents need to take some responsibility about where they place their children, and that such centres would be a way of encouraging good consumer choice. But the stark fact is that facilities are so scarce and so expensive that most parents have to take what they can find. In the meantime, the little offered by the social services departments is likely to be removed.

Acroyd Community Nursery illustrates all the questions about partnership in child-care. It operates in a small community centre in a multi-racial area of Lewisham, in London. Originally funded under urban aid, it persuaded Lewisham to buy a next door terrace house, and the GLC to fund its revenue costs as an annex to the main nursery.

Acroyd nursery is a perfect example of partnership. It offers a service to local people, is run by local people and employs local women. It offers imaginative child-care, and has links with local schools.

Next year, urban aid funding runs out. Lewisham is being rate-capped for, among other things, spending too much money on day nursery provision, and the GLC is being abolished. What will happen to Acroyd then?

Helen Penn is research officer for the National Child-care Campaign.

WHY AND in what sense are some sciences called hard and others soft, and why are the hands-down winners, not physics, but mathematics and logic, of which mathematics may be regarded as a branch. (We are back in the philosophy department.)

For hard facts, biology, history, geography, linguistics and the rest do at least as well as, and possibly better than, theoretical physics.

The root of all this confusion has not been any special imperialism on the part of physicists themselves. It has been the attempt of philosophers of science to build simple barricades against ideologies which were claiming scientific status. Above all, it was a hasty customs-barrier thrown up against Freud and Marx.

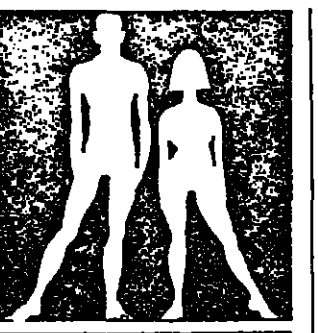
Instead of admitting that the one was doing political theory and the other psychology of motive, and trying to understand on their own merits the claims which each made to be viewed as doing it more or less scientifically, the defenders ruled that nothing but physics-shaped could count as science at all. They threw all other products of the human intellect into a single bin labelled, indifferently, metaphysics, pseudo-science or soft.

But this approach, which dominated philosophy of science for half a century, distorts the very idea of science, and though many scientists grasp how clockwork runs, they see this mechanistic model as one among many, all of which are inadequate, and which need very difficult philosophical thinking to relate them. There is no room for hardness-another here, and they do not tend to practise it.

All studies have their difficulties. These could not possibly be graded on a single scale. And anyway, mere difficulty does not really seem to be what those who praise hardness have in mind. When asked the sense which they most often mention refers to some special sort of precision or reliability. Now every study which is not actually fraudulent thinking has some things precisely and reliably.

Hard evidence — meaning the precise and reliable kind — is available everywhere, in history, in archaeology, in biology and geography

Is hard-nosed the opposite of soft in the head?



BODY AND SOUL

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Hard evidence — meaning the precise and reliable kind — is available everywhere, in history, in archaeology, in biology and geography

and linguistics and the rest. When we press our questions further, the meaning of hard which emerges splits up into two strands. One strand is tailored directly to describe physics, but fails to explain in what sense if any, the qualities it mentions deserve particular praise. (In fact, the whole idea that one study is to be praised above all others is probably nonsense and should be dropped.)

The other strand makes more explicit the kind of praise that it deals in, but fails to apply especially to physics. For example, when the notion of precision is pressed, another division arises between the claims of logical clarity ("hard arguments") and those of solid empirical data ("hard facts").

For hard arguments, the hands-down winners are, not physics, but mathematics and logic, of which mathematics may be regarded as a branch. (We are back in the philosophy department.)

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Families matter, said the EEC. But Britain didn't listen

THE EEC Commission's Community Action Programme has produced a draft directive on Parental Leave and Leave for Family Reasons — virtually unknown, but dealing with issues of great importance to many families.

Parental leave would enable an employed parent to take time off work to take sole or principal care of his or her child, following the end of maternity leave. The draft directive proposes a minimum of three months leave for each worker, to be taken at any time until a child is two. Leave would be equally available to mothers and fathers, provided they are employed: an employed parent could only take paren-

tal leave if he or she were an employed single parent or had a partner who was working.

Both parents could not be on leave at the same time, and the leave entitlement would not be transferable. Where employers agreed, leave could be taken part-time, and the period extended to make, for instance, six months' full-time leave into a year's part-time. Individual states would decide whether or not to pay an allowance to people taking parental leave.

Leave for family reasons would entitle workers to take paid leave for "important or pressing family reasons," including the illness of a child or spouse. As with parental leave, the entitlement

would be open to men and women workers.

Both these leaves are important for several reasons. They would help to reconcile work and family responsibilities and provide new child-care options — a complement to day-care rather than a substitute. They recognise that fathers have equal responsibilities for children and give them equal rights with mothers.

Perhaps most important, the directive makes a contribution to equal opportunities. The recent Government survey on women and adverse consequences for women, in terms of job and income prospects, of losing contact with the labour market during their child-bearing

years. It concludes that "family formation has a lasting effect... It depresses women's lifetime earnings by between 25 and 50 per cent." But parental leave, together with leave for family reasons, would help women maintain continuity of employment while having children. They could return to their former jobs rather than, as often happens now, having to start from scratch or rejoin further down the career ladder.

Of the 10 EEC countries, only the Netherlands, Ireland and the UK provide no parental leave. Internationally, the most impressive provision is outside the EEC — in Sweden, which now offers 12 months' paid parental leave for each family, the last six

months of which may be taken as part-time leave at any time until a child is eight. Working parents are also entitled to 60 days' paid leave each year for each child under the age of 12, to take them to medical appointments, visit nurseries and so on.

If adopted by the Council of Ministers, the draft EEC directive would set minimum standards of leave for all EEC states. The directive is a priority for implementation by the Italian Government during its current spell as president of the Council. A House of Lords committee here has supported paid parental leave, because "it will promote equal opportunities for women and will also improve child-care."

although it concluded that leave should initially be for only one month and that small businesses should be exempted.

But the prospects for adoption do not look promising, because the United Kingdom opposes the directive and its veto can kill it. The Government objects on grounds of cost and because it does not believe that this is an "appropriate" area for legislation. It argues that such matters should be left to voluntary negotiation between employers and employees — even though most witnesses to the House of Lords rejected this.

Peter Moss is a researcher at the University of London's Institute of Education.

Even for those of us outside the sciences, the notion of hardness is misleading, because it is natural to associate it with reliability and usefulness. But some of the most useful thinking both for ever do is totally informal, and very little of that useful thinking forms part of any physical science.

Mary Midgley

On the 4th of December, 1984, Olive Bateman had a visitor.

Social Services

Senior Social Worker

(South Area Office)

£10,400 - £12,025 p.a.

JC/881/110

A qualified Social Worker is required (male or female) with at least two years experience to lead a team of social workers in the South Area which covers a range of settings from the inner city to outer area suburbs and primary care. The postholder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the team, ensuring that all cases are handled efficiently and that the team works in a co-ordinated manner. The postholder will also be responsible for the supervision and training of the team. The successful applicant will be expected to participate in policy formulation. He/she must be able to demonstrate leadership, initiative and the ability to work in an area which has seen a number of new developments and which is likely to see an extension of these in the future.

Applicants wishing to have an informal discussion should ring Mr G. Swain, Acting Area Director, at the South Area, Senior Social Worker, Tel: Nottingham (0602) 216021.

Closing date: 2 May.

Social Worker (2 posts)

Post 1 - Nottingham City Hospital

Ref: JH/303/710

We are looking for a qualified and experienced person to complement a lively and committed team of social workers serving the patients of the City of Nottingham. The successful applicant (male or female) will provide an imaginative and effective service to two acute admission and assessment wards and will be expected to work closely with their multi-disciplinary teams. The Social Work Department employs a good partnership with its medical and paramedical colleagues, and this is particularly true of the two consultant geriatricians pertaining to these wards, who have a constructive and sympathetic approach to the needs of elderly people. The postholder is committed to the in-service training of staff, and equally to regular and supportive supervision. There is close liaison with local COSW training establishments and staff are encouraged to offer their skills in student placements, for which the department has a good reputation. Opportunities exist for development work and new initiatives will always be encouraged.

For further information, please contact Mary Bravett, Team Leader or Sheila Martin, Group Principal, Tel: Nottingham (0602) 806111 Ext. 2711 or Ext. 2427 respectively.

Closing date: 9 May.

Post 2 - Mansfield and Sutton Hospital Group

Ref: JH/303/710

A qualified Social Worker is required for this post which is located in a sub-group of geriatric hospitals and is responsible for a short-medium term care service to elderly patients. A multi-professional approach has been established and we work closely

with other members of the team. A "screening project" dealing with all new admissions has improved our service to Victoria Hospital and has proved invaluable in establishing a good working relationship with the staff of the hospital. The postholder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the team, ensuring that all cases are handled efficiently and that the team works in a co-ordinated manner. The postholder will also be responsible for the supervision and training of the team. The successful applicant will be expected to participate in policy formulation. He/she must be able to demonstrate leadership, initiative and the ability to work in an area which has seen a number of new developments and which is likely to see an extension of these in the future.

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with other members of the team. A "screening project" dealing with all new admissions has improved our service to Victoria Hospital and has proved invaluable in establishing a good working relationship with the staff of the hospital. The postholder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the team, ensuring that all cases are handled efficiently and that the team works in a co-ordinated manner. The postholder will also be responsible for the supervision and training of the team. The successful applicant will be expected to participate in policy formulation. He/she must be able to demonstrate leadership, initiative and the ability to work in an area which has seen a number of new developments and which is likely to see an extension of these in the future.

Applicants wishing to have an informal discussion should ring Mr G. Swain, Acting Area Director, at the South Area, Senior Social Worker, Tel: Nottingham (0602) 216021.

Closing date: 2 May.

Post 2 - Mansfield and Sutton Hospital Group

Ref: JH/303/710

A qualified Social Worker is required for this post which is located in a sub-group of geriatric hospitals and is responsible for a short-medium term care service to elderly patients. A multi-professional approach has been established and we work closely

with other members of the team. A "screening project" dealing with all new admissions has improved our service to Victoria Hospital and has proved invaluable in establishing a good working relationship with the staff of the hospital. The postholder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the team, ensuring that all cases are handled efficiently and that the team works in a co-ordinated manner. The postholder will also be responsible for the supervision and training of the team. The successful applicant will be expected to participate in policy formulation. He/she must be able to demonstrate leadership, initiative and the ability to work in an area which has seen a number of new developments and which is likely to see an extension of these in the future.

Applicants wishing to have an informal discussion should ring Mr G. Swain, Acting Area Director, at the South Area, Senior Social Worker, Tel: Nottingham (0602) 216021.

Closing date: 2 May.

Chief Executive



£24,431 - £26,874

Eastleigh is situated in southern Hampshire close to the scenic and sporting attractions of the Solent and New Forest. With a population approaching 100,000, its wide interests include major industrial concerns and thriving commercial, agricultural and leisure sectors, including the boatbuilding and yachting centres on the Hamble.

With the retirement of the Chief Executive in July, the Council is seeking a successor with the experience, flair and ability to lead the corporate management team and 590 council employees.

Eastleigh is a progressive authority in which the new Chief Executive will assume responsibility for the formulation and implementation of the council's policies, and the appropriate deployment of all resources. In addition, there are duties as a Returning Officer, and manpower and information services are directly attached to the post.

Key tasks will be the implementation of further development plans and proposals for a major shopping centre in the town.

Applicants are likely to be in their 40s, from a relevant professional discipline, with substantial knowledge of local government organisation and procedures, and a successful track record in a wide-ranging senior management role.

In addition to salary, there are car and telephone allowances and election fees. A resettlement allowance of £2,500 is available.

Please send brief cv, in confidence, quoting Ref: GM 78/8294/G, to G T M Hinde, from whom further particulars are available. Closing date for applications: 17 May 1985.



PA Personnel Services

Executive Search - Selection - Psychology - Recruitment & Personnel Consulting

Hyde Park House, 60a Knightbridge, London SW1X 7LE

Tel: 01-235 0000 Telex: 22874

TOWER HAMLETS HEALTH AUTHORITY

DISTRICT GENERAL MANAGER

This Inner London Teaching District provides health care services to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and specialist hospital services to a wider population in the North East Thames Regional Health Authority. Its current revenue budget is £54m and it employs over 5,400 Whole-Time Equivalent staff.

A General Manager is now required to run this large and complex organisation. Directly responsible to the Authority for the formulation of policies and objectives and the management of change, the General Manager will be head of the management team. A key feature will be the setting and achieving of financial and performance targets.

Candidates will need to possess and be able to demonstrate high qualities of leadership, achievement and innovation in business or public service at an equivalent management level and be earning at least £20,000 per annum.

The contractual arrangements will be for discussion but initially the appointment will be for a fixed term of three years.

An information package is available from Tony Wright, District Personnel Officer, Tower Hamlets Health Authority, The London Hospital (Whitechapel), London E1 1BB. Telephone No. 01-377 0403.

Closing date: 17th May 1985.



Tower Hamlets Health Authority

TRANSPORTATION IN STAFFORDSHIRE

Planning Assistant

Scale 3/5 (£15,922-£28,262 per annum)

Applications are invited for the post of Planning Assistant in the Transportation Division (which is part of the County Transportation Unit) of the County Planning and Development Department.

The postholder will be an important member of a team dealing with all aspects of transportation planning. In particular he/she will be concerned with transport modelling the transportation aspects of the County Structure Plan, Local Plans and major planning applications and scheme assessment. He/she will also be expected to work closely with staff in the County Highways Department in the design of highway improvements.

Applicants will be expected to have obtained a degree in Civil Engineering or other suitable qualifications.

Application forms and further details from the County Planning and Development Officer, Martin Street, Stafford ST16 2LE. The closing date for applications is the 7th May 1985.

Trade Union membership desirable.



Staffordshire County Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT

WOMEN'S SUB-COMMITTEE SUPPORT UNIT

Principal Adviser

(£11,916 - £12,900)

The Council's Women's Sub-Committee is concerned with the review, development and implementation of policies for the improvement of the provision of services with respect to women in the Borough and the position of women employed by the Council. This new post will lead the recently strengthened unit of 3 staff. A clear understanding of women's issues and a commitment to improving the position of women are basic requirements of the job and the successful candidate will have demonstrated an ability to make an effective contribution to the consideration of policy, possibly within a local government setting, but not necessarily on matters concerning the position of women. The Council welcomes applications regardless of race, colour, nationality or ethnic or nation origins, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation or disability.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Chief Executive, Town Hall, East Ham, London, E8 8EP. Tel: 471 6010 (24 hour answering service). Please quote reference ASC416.

Closing date: 17 May 1985.



London Borough of Newham

District General Manager

Wycombe Health Authority is looking for a General Manager, who will be responsible for the management of the Authority for the total of services which it provides for implementing its policies; and for its financial performance. This new post results from the recommendations of the recent NHS Management Inquiry (the Griffiths Report). The considerable skills needed include the ability to manage organisational change by persuading and motivating staff of different professions and disciplines. Relevant experience might have been gained in the private or public sector.

The Wycombe Health District covers part of the Chiltern Hills and includes the towns of High Wycombe and Amersham (in both of which there are general hospitals), Beaconsfield, Chesham, Gerrards Cross and Marlow. The population is 224,000. The Authority employs some 3500 staff and has a current annual revenue allocation of £25 million. The strategy approved for the next two years by the Oxford Regional Health Authority envisages substantial development of both hospital-based and community services in the Wycombe District, resulting in the highest rate of growth of services in the Region.

The appointment will be for a fixed term, renewable by agreement. Salary and other terms of service will be commensurate with the responsibility of the post and are open to negotiation. Further information is available from the Chairman, Mr J. E. Camp, Oshingrove, Strawberry Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP12 6PS. (Telephone High Wycombe 26 161, Ext. 278).

Candidates should forward a cv and a statement of their reasons for wishing to be considered for this appointment to the Chairman by 14 May 1985.

WYCOMBE HEALTH AUTHORITY



Northern Ireland Economic Council

Deputy Director

£16,229 - £21,834

The Economic Council is an independent body established by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland to advise on economic policy. The Council, which is chaired by Sir Charles Carter, FBA, is composed of management trade union and independent interests.

Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Director. In addition to advising the Director, the duties will include an overall responsibility for the Council's research programme and detailed work on individual projects. Good writing skills are an essential requirement for the post.

Candidates should have a higher degree and substantial research experience - preferably in Economics or a closely related discipline. The Deputy Director salary scale is £16,229 - £21,834 and there is a non-contributory pension scheme.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Northern Ireland Economic Council, Belfast House, 2, Lincolns Inn, London EC2A 3BA or by telephone from Belfast 222444. Closing date for applications is 9 May 1985.

Not later than 9 May 1985.

Northern Ireland Economic Council

WANTED

Co-ordinator

£10,156-£11,562

The Women's Technology Scheme offers 12 months training to women over 25 who want to work in the technology sector. The scheme aims to provide high quality training in micro-electronics and computer science, and an encouraging environment.

The scheme is funded by the United Kingdom Science and Technology Research Council and the European Social Fund and is subject to annual review.

We are looking for someone to replace our Co-ordinator who is seconded by the local education authority and will be leaving in August 1985. Applicants should have a minimum of 5 years' experience in training opportunities for women and recent financial and administrative or managerial experience relevant to the voluntary sector. Teaching, technical or industrial experience not essential but would be an advantage.

For further details and application forms contact the Women's Technology Scheme, Worsley House, 2, Lincolns Inn, London EC2A 3BA or by telephone from Belfast 222444. Closing date for applications is 15th May 1985.

The Women's Technology Scheme is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Closing date: 15th May 1985.

Women's Technology Scheme

CENTRAL LONDON LAW CENTRE

requires

SOLICITOR

(min. 3 years qualified)

for housing advice

casework

development work

Bengali or Cantonese

speaker preferred. GLC

funded. Salary £9,780

p.a. inc. London

Weighting, under review.

Applications are

welcome regardless of

race, sex or marital

status.

For details phone 01-437

5854 (Val Hughes).

Closing date: 20th May,

1985.

CENTRAL LONDON LAW CENTRE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT/BOOK-KEEPER

Sought by Catholic Housing Aid Society.

£3,000 per annum for

14 hours per week.

For application form

and job description

contact:

CH

GLC

Working for London

Central Training Manager

This challenging and influential position takes a leading role in implementing the Council's equal opportunities policies and positive action programme and is responsible for running a 30-strong division with a budget of £1.6M.

Responsibilities include co-ordinating and providing professional supervision and support to all in-service training activities and developing new training programmes, particularly those geared to promoting equal opportunities for women, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.

The expertise of an innovative training specialist is required, with a solid background in direct training in management or adult education generally. Proven organisational and management skills and an understanding of staff development issues are also essential.

Salary: £16,629 - £18,489 inclusive.
For an application form, to be returned by 10th May 1985, write to: GLC Personnel Department, Room 325, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 5728/6650.

Training Officer

To manage and develop training programmes for the 1,400 manual, craft and 700 white collar staff employed by the Department of Recreation and the Arts. Responsibilities cover administering the department's Horticultural Training Centre at Finsbury Park, assisting with the development of the new Staff Appraisal Scheme and researching and implementing training plans with reference to equal opportunities initiatives.

A sound practical personnel background - with an emphasis on the training field, is needed. This should be coupled with good communication skills, proven organisational and staff management experience with an understanding of staff development issues and commitment to using these channels to promote equal opportunities.

Salary: £13,065 - £14,781 inclusive.
For an application form, to be returned by 10th May 1985, write to: GLC Department for Recreation & the Arts, Room 686, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1666.

PA to Unit Heads

Women's Committee Support Unit

The Women's Committee takes an active role in supporting and promoting the interests of women in London and an opening has now arisen for someone with an understanding of women's issues and a commitment to the Committee's aims.

In providing secretarial, administrative and policy back up and assistance to the Unit's four Heads, this post will be concerned with the whole range of the Unit's work. The highly varied workload includes research and drafting correspondence/briefs, minuting meetings, dealing with enquiries and liaising within the Council and with outside groups and organisations.

Experience of policy work and drafting is essential together with good typing and shorthand, audio or wordprocessing skills. The ability to organise and prioritise a pressurised workload and to establish basic office systems is also essential.

Salary: £9,255 - £11,325 inclusive.
For an application form, to be returned by 10th May 1985, write to: GLC Director-General's Department, Ref: 6015, Room 203, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1537.

These posts are suitable for job sharing

Programme Officers

These appointments are with the Programme Office, a multi-disciplinary unit which plays a leading role in the management of the Council in ensuring the efficient implementation of its policies.

Work is undertaken in close co-operation with Members and senior officers and covers a wide range of functions, from performance monitoring to carrying out policy analysis and "troubleshooting". Co-ordinating the programme of financial assistance to London's "stress" boroughs is a key area of activity.

The ability to quickly acquire an understanding of the relevant local authority management and information systems is essential and these positions offer scope for creativity and innovation in initiating improvements. Good communication and interpersonal skills are prerequisite.

Appointments are at two levels:
Senior Programme Officer
Salary: £14,781 - £16,545 inclusive. Ref: 6021.

Programme Officer
Salary: £13,065 - £14,781 inclusive. Ref: 6022.

For an application form, to be returned by 10th May 1985, write to: GLC Director-General's Department, Room 303, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1527. Please quote appropriate reference.

Equal Opportunities Officer

An interest in and commitment to implementing equal opportunities initiatives in employment, particularly in relation to the needs of Asian staff is vitally important for this post, which plays a leading role in opening up opportunities within the Council to ethnic minorities, women, people with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.

Work is undertaken on a team basis and broadly involves projects to develop positive action courses/workshops and access to training together with casework and research into eliminating barriers to employment which prevent the full operation of the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy. There is a strong consultancy element, in advising management and individuals and in working with the Departments to increase recruitment and promotion opportunities for all groups identified.

This calls for the capacity to initiate and implement projects and new areas of activity and strong communications skills, backed by experience/knowledge of the training and educational needs of ethnic minorities.

This is an area of the Council's work where there is under-representation of Asian staff therefore we would welcome applications from suitably qualified Asian men and women for this post.

Salary: £13,065 - £14,781 inclusive.
For an application form, to be returned by 10th May 1985, write to: GLC Personnel Department, Room 325, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 5728/6650.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We welcome applications from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

LONDON

AGAINST

RACISM

TACKLING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT - A POSITIVE APPROACH

Are you concerned about the problems facing young people?
Could you lead a team of diverse people whose job it is to help them cope with life today?

Community Industry (CI) provides work for 7,000 young people each year in 57 areas throughout Great Britain. Funded by Central and Local Government, the work undertaken is of benefit to the Community. By giving individual support and guidance to the young people, CI aims to develop their work and social skills.

Our operations in NORTH TYNE, SOUTH HAMPSHIRE and SEFTON (Merseyside) each need someone with a broad-based experience, preferably including the management of people, finance and materials to fill the post of:

AREA MANAGER

You will need to be fit and active; possess a current driving licence; be a confident, energetic and drive; be committed to our equal opportunities policy and be a good communicator. Knowledge of employment legislation, industrial relations and public-funded organisations would be useful.

Relevant life experience may be just as valuable as formal qualifications and professional experience. We welcome applications from women and men from all sections of the community.

We offer good conditions of service: a contributory superannuation scheme and a starting salary of £9,477 pa rising to £11,025 pa.

Further details and application form from: The Personnel Manager, Community Industry, 24 Highbury Crescent, London N5 1RL. Telephone: 01-226 6663. Completed application forms to be returned by: 10th May, 1985.

Community Industry

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN WYCOMBE?

TEAM LEADER (Community Resources)

Salary: £10,716 - £11,562

COMMUNITY WORKERS (Two Posts)

Salary: £7,746 - £10,716

(subject to experience and professional evaluations).

An exciting new opportunity exists to develop community resources in High Wycombe. We are creating a new team which we hope will help us to make sense of:

- our use of community workers,
- the special problems of the ethnic minority population in the town,
- our use of volunteers,
- the need for welfare rights advice.

Applicants for posts should be qualified as social workers or community workers. Applicants for the team leader post should have experience of developing resources in the community, collaboration with statutory and voluntary agencies and some experience of supervision.

For informal discussion contact Miss Jennifer Rudnick, Area Manager on High Wycombe (0494) 46277. Further information and application forms please contact the Director of Social Services, County Hall, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP20 1EX. Telephone Aylesbury (0295) 5000 extension 512. Closing date: 13th May, 1985. An equal opportunity employer.

Buckinghamshire

Lake District Special Planning Board

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

(Salary Scale £17,649 x £447 (4) to £19,437 pa)

The Board, which is the unitary planning body and National Park Authority for the county's largest national park, seeks applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons to direct its Administrative Services. The person appointed will deputise for the National Park Officer in all administrative matters and will serve as a member of the Senior Management Team.

The successful applicant will have knowledge and experience of modern management methods, local government administration including servicing of committees, current personnel policies and practices and modern office technology. Desirable also is knowledge of National Parks or countryside matters, including legal and financial issues relevant to the National Park system.

The post is subject to the conditions of service of the JNC for Local Authorities, Chief Officers and to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme. Assistance will be given with relocation expenses in appropriate cases. Further particulars, application form and job description may be obtained from the National Park Officer, Bushy Walk, Kendal LA9 4RH to whom completed application forms should be sent to arrive not later than by first post on 10th May, 1985. Interviews will take place on 24th May, 1985.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ISLE OF ELY NATURALIST TRUST LIMITED

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

To take responsibility for the development of all aspects of the membership of CAMBIENT including education, interpretation and voluntary work as well as the day-to-day organisation of Trust affairs.

Conservation background essential.

Five day week with some evening and weekend work, 6 weeks holiday.

Salary around £5,500 starting as soon as possible.

Applications with C.V. and names of 2 referees by 24th May to: The Chairman of Executive, CAMBIENT, 1 Brookside, Cambridge CB2 1JF.

ECUADOR AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER

AN ECUADORIAN development organisation providing services for Andean peasant communities in health, culture, agriculture and appropriate technology needs an agricultural engineer to design and supervise the construction of small scale irrigation systems. The engineer will work with a team of local people. The engineer will work with a team of local people. The engineer will work with a team of local people.

Practical design and wood and metal working skills are needed, as well as a training in agricultural engineering. Suitable language training can be provided. Two year contract, including basic salary, return flights to Britain, insurance, pension allowances. CIDR can only consider applicants without dependants. For a job description and application form, please send your cv and a large SAE to CIDR Programme, 23 Colston Field, London N1 7AF, quoting ref GP44.

EXETER CITY COUNCIL
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND PROPERTY
(£19,332-£21,267)
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND TOURISM
(£18,105-£19,917)

Following a major restructuring of its Committees and Departments, the City Council is inviting applications for the two new Chief Officer posts of (a) Director of Planning and Property and (b) Director of Leisure and Tourism.

The Planning and Property Department will comprise Planning Control, Design and Development, Property Maintenance and Estates and Valuation. A relevant professional qualification e.g. RTPI, RICS, RIBA, is necessary. The Leisure and Tourism Department will comprise all Council activities relating to recreation, the arts, tourism and the museum service. No specific professional discipline is required but a professional training in a related area is essential.

Both posts form part of the Chief Officer Group; proven experience in resource management at a most senior level in either the public or private sector is essential. If you are attracted by the challenge of creating a major new council department in an historic, beautiful, yet progressive city and would like further details, please contact the Personnel Officer, Room 3.17, Exeter City Council, Civic Centre, EXETER EX1 1JL. Telephone EXETER (0382) 77886, Ext 2125. Closing date for completed applications is Monday, 13th May. Interviews will be held near the 31st May.

UNIVERSITIES

UMIST
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DESIGN AND TEST CENTRE
(2) PROJECT OFFICERS

The Centre provides a fast response service for the design, development and testing of custom / semi-custom integrated circuits. Applicants must possess an appropriate qualification in electronic engineering and should preferably have several years' experience in the design of digital systems. Knowledge of VLSI technology would also be desirable. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre and will be required to provide a two-year period with a serious commitment to the Centre's development. Salary scale in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 p.a. Informal enquiries can be made by contacting: Mr. J. H. Jones, 01-633 3511, Ext. 2058.

Request for application forms, including details of the Centre, should be sent to The Recruitment Section, Room 3.17, Department, UMIST, 100th Floor, Manchester, M13 9PL. The closing date for applications is May 31, 1985.

ARCHITECTS & PLANNERS

BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK
SENIOR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL OFFICER
Salary Scale PD (2-5) £11,655-£11,889

Applications are invited for this Brecon based post. Applicants should preferably be Chartered Town Planners with appropriate development control experience at a senior level. An architectural qualification would be an advantage.

The successful applicant will lead a small team of two Area Planning Officers and one Enforcement Officer.

Application forms and further details are available from the National Park Officer, 7 Glamorgan Street, Brecon, Powys LD3 7DP. Telephone Brecon 4431. Closing date for completed forms, Wednesday, May 15, 1985.

ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS

Humbly Grove
County Council
COUNTY ARCHITECTS
AREA BUILDING SURVEYORS

CA 128, CA132 (TWO POSTS)

Scale 4/5 - £5,562-£8,562

Divisional Maintenance Office, Greater Hall area and County Hall, Bexley

Following departmental re-organisation the above posts become vacant within the Building Maintenance Section.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Building Maintenance Section. The successful applicant will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Building Maintenance Section.

An appropriate qualification in building or surveying is essential. The successful applicant will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Building Maintenance Section.

Closing date: May 5, 1985.

Application form from: County Council, North Humberside EUTY 58A.

To Advertise in Public Appointments

Write or phone: The Guardian Classified Advertisement Department

119 Farringdon Road London EC1R 3ER

Tel: 01-278 2332

OR

164 Deansgate

Manchester M60 2RR

Tel: 061-832 7200

Ext. 2161

Housing Finance

£14,928 to £17,148 Croydon

The Housing Corporation is a progressive organisation which promotes, funds and supervises registered housing associations, working with them to provide homes for people in need. We currently administer a housing development budget of around £20 million, as well as providing guarantee facilities of £126 million to the voluntary housing movement.

As FINANCE OFFICER you will:
- be the senior finance professional in the Croydon office providing financial advice to regional management and housing associations.
- play a key role as part of the regional management team.
- manage a team of 14 finance and accounting for housing schemes in the region.

We are looking for a fully qualified accountant who has experience of computer-based accounting systems in either the public or private sector, and a broad knowledge of public finance.

We are offering a generous benefits package which includes an index-linked pension and flexible working hours.

Please apply in writing with a full c.v. to: Vivienne Colchester, Principal Personnel Officer, The Housing Corporation, 149 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0BN. Tel: 01-387 9466.

The Housing Corporation

BRITISH AGENCIES FOR ADOPTION AND FOSTERING
BLACK ISSUES PROJECT WORKER

Salary £11,259 to £12,243 per annum plus London Weighting

This influential children's charity is setting up a project to help social work agencies develop their services for black children in care and their families. This first appointment (to a team of three) will be responsible for the creation of an information service for the development of publications and training aids with an ethnic minority focus and for helping to ensure that the race dimension is fully reflected across the range of BAAF's existing work.

The person appointed will need a sound professional understanding of the issues involved together with a good written and oral communication skills.

BAAF is an equal opportunity employer.

For further details and application forms please write to Finance and Administration Officer, 11 Southmark Street, London SE1 1RQ or telephone 01-407 8800.

Closing date: 17th May, 1985.

UNITED KINGDOM HOUSING TRUST
HOUSING OFFICERS (RESIDENTIAL)

2 POSTS: - Salary £7,380 qualified (i.o.h., C.Q.S.W.)
£6,780 unqualified

U.K.H.T. is a charitable rent housing association which in the East Midlands region manages over 1,300 tenancies, the majority of which are for single people.

The Trust is seeking two suitably experienced staff to manage properties in Nottingham and Derby. Both posts are residential in rent and rate free accommodation, the one in Nottingham being on a 120 tenancy single person scheme and the other, whilst based on a single person scheme in central Derby will also have responsibility for a scheme in Shirebrook for single people. A driving licence is essential for the latter post. Particular emphasis is placed on an ability to understand and communicate with tenants and the needs of the local communities.

Applications to: Claire Roberts, Personnel Officer, U.K.H.T., 167 Oxford Street, London W1R 1TA. Tel: 01-434 2211.

UKHT

U.K.H.T. is an equal opportunities employer.

DISABLED HOUSING TRUST
DISABLED ENTERPRISES TRUST
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

We are looking for an exceptional person to fill this demanding but rewarding position.

The chosen candidate will take a large measure of responsibility for the running of a unique sheltered housing scheme for disabled people of all ages. He or she will also be expected to develop and follow through new developments in DHT and, in particular, for its daughter charity The Disabled Enterprises Trust (a scheme to encourage disabled people to develop their own skills).

A social work qualification might be useful, but is not essential. Far more important is the requirement that the Deputy Director should be both an able administrator and good at working alongside people. He or she needs also to be an effective communicator.

We will expect to see evidence of a personal empathy with disabled people and a caring concern for the enhancement of the quality of their lives.

SALARY: £12,500 plus benefits

Please apply in writing, enclosing c.v. to: The Director, The Disabled Housing Trust, 6 Colindale Avenue, London NW9 1BS.

DISABLED HOUSING TRUST

TRUST

Derbyshire Co-operative Development Agency Ltd

Equal Opportunity Employer

Derbyshire CDA promotes and assists the establishment of worker co-ops in Derbyshire. We are now looking for three energetic and committed people to join our team and help build on our success.

TWO CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

Based in Derby and Glossop

The job involves all aspects of advice and support to new and existing worker co-ops. As well as liaison with statutory bodies the persons appointed will be expected to assist in training and promotional programmes. Commitment to and experience of this expanding economic sector will be considered more important than formal qualifications.

FIELDWORKER/ACCOUNTANT

Based in Chesterfield

This important post has been created to assist with the administration of a new revolving loan fund. Considerable time will be spent in the field working closely with worker co-ops in all aspects of financial management, liaison with banks, the Inland Revenue, etc. Additionally, this person will be expected to assist with other development work. A formal accountancy qualification is preferred, but practical experience of the co-operative or small firms sector is essential.

Salary: All posts £9,477 (SOL).

A full driving licence is required. Relocation expenses and car loan will be considered for suitable applicants. For further details and application form write to: John Whitley, Derbyshire C.D.A., 3 The Strand Arcade, Derby DE1 1BQ. Closing date 18th May, 1985.

Promoting Workers' Co-operatives in Derbyshire

CHIEF EXECUTIVES DEPARTMENT
Assistant Solicitor

Salary Scale PD (4) £11,025 - £11,889

Applications are invited for the above post in the Chief Executive's Department. The successful applicant would be responsible for a wide range of legal work in a small but busy office. In addition, the person appointed would be required to give legal advice and assistance to Officers of the Authority and Members of the Council as requested and to attend meetings of the Council as required.

Previous local government experience desirable but not essential. Only admitted Solicitors need a reply.

West Lindsey District Council is situated in North Lincolnshire, has a population of approximately 77,000, covers some 450 sq. miles and embraces a contrasting environment.

In approved cases removal and distance allowances are payable and temporary housing may be considered.

Application forms, job description etc., are available from Andrew Macdonald, Personnel Officer, The Guildhall, Gainsborough, Lincs. DN21 2DH (Tel: Gainsborough 5411 ext. 212) to whom completed forms must be returned by Friday 17th May 1985.

West Lindsey District Council

ETHNIC MINORITIES ON YTS

Initial research by the West Midlands County Council sponsored YTS Research Project has demonstrated that ethnic minority trainees are not getting equal treatment on YTS. The project now requires a:

RESEARCHER

£8,532-£9,114 per annum - Post Ref. EDR/3

The post will be funded until March 31st, 1986, with a possible extension of a further 6 months.

The worker will concentrate on finding out why and how black trainees experience unequal treatment on YTS and will be expected to produce written reports on the various aspects involved. Close liaison with ethnic minority community organisations, the labour movement, employers and sponsors of schemes would be expected. Research experience and/or knowledge of YTS would be preferable.

For more information contact 021-300 66083.

For application forms please contact 021-300 7825 or write to County Personnel Officer, West Midlands County Council, County Hall, 1 Lancaster Circus, Queensway, Birmingham B4 7UD.

The appointment will be made on an equal opportunity basis and applications from women, ethnic minorities and the disabled are encouraged. Job sharing and secondments would be considered.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 8th May, 1985.

Middlesbrough Borough Council

BOROUGH SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT

Principal Assistant Secretary

£12,243 - £13,326

We are located in the heart of Cleveland County and have achieved a great deal since 1974. Members and officers work together on the framework of sophisticated policy making processes which are challenging and effective. As a programme Authority we can produce more than many and all of this in a setting where town and country mix in an attractive manner.

We need a solicitor to join the team in my Department. This is a third tier post with considerable input to planning, litigation and "non-conveyancing" activities and also advising Committees. A lawyer is wanted who can not only demonstrate professional and personal qualities but who looks as if he or she would get as much from us in terms of experience and work satisfaction as we ourselves would demand in terms of implementing our plans for the future.

Write to me for further details or if you prefer an informal discussion phone me (ext 3541) or Colin Crossman (ext 3528) at (0942) 245432. Applications will close on 10 May 1985. Address: Stephen Robinson, Borough Secretary, PO Box 99A, Municipal Buildings, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 2DQ.

It is the policy of Middlesbrough Borough Council to provide equal employment opportunities and consideration will be given to all suitably experienced and qualified applicants regardless of handicap, sex or race.

The Council has a policy of inviting for interview all disabled persons who have the written support of their Disabling Rehabilitation Officer.

Job Sharing facilities are available.

INNER LONDON EDUCATION AUTHORITY
FULHAM GIRLS' PROJECT
683 Fulham Road, SW6
Scale 3H

SENIOR WORKER

required for this well established project. Must have experience of, and commitment to, work with girls and young women, ability to motivate and support staff and a clear commitment to the Authority's anti-racist and anti-sexist policies.

Scale 3L

DETACHED WORKER

also required to assist the senior worker to consolidate and expand the project's work with girls and young women. Experience of detached/project work, together with an understanding of, and commitment to, the needs of girls and young women.

For further information and application forms for both posts please contact Hammersmith & Fulham Area Youth Office, 91-115 Glenhorne Road, W6 0LJ. Tel: 741 0517.

WOMAN OUTREACH WORKER

to work with women and men sleeping out in Central London

She will fill a vacancy in a team of outreach workers to contact, advise and assist homeless people. Streetwork is an integral part of the job which involves some evening and night work. Experience in any of the following would be desirable: work with homeless people; problem drinkers; welfare/housing rights; counselling; campaigning.

THAMES REACH H.A. is an independent, non-statutory project, presently funded by the GLC. In addition to the Outreach

COULD YOU SPEAK THE PUBLIC'S MIND ON TODAY'S NHS ISSUES?

Community Health Councils are independent bodies, set up to air the public's views to NHS management, on a local level.

The Senior full time, elected officer of the Council is an organising Secretary, responsible for the effective running of the CHC. A vacancy has arisen at the Wolverhampton CHC.

Candidates are generally aged 25+ with good educational qualifications, articulate, diplomatic and experienced administrators, preferably with some previous Health Service, Social Service or voluntary work experience.

It's a fascinating job bringing you into contact with a range of people from one-on-one consultations to minority pressure groups, with fresh topics arising daily, from surveys to public perceptions of the service to discussions about ward closures.

Salary (NHS Scale 9) is in the range £8,744 to £10,739 per annum, new entrants to the NHS commence at the minimum of the scale.

For an application form and job description, write quoting WOL/CHC to Personnel Division, West Midlands Regional Health Authority, 200 Broad Street, Birmingham B15 1SW (021 643 5781). Completed application forms to be returned by 10th May 1985. Present CHC Secretary, Mrs G. Wilson (Wolverhampton 29242) may be contacted for further information.

West Midlands Regional Health Authority

Economic Development Officer

Negotiable Salary from £15,000

Lancaster has, through Enterprise Lancaster, an excellent record in the encouragement of industry and commerce, maximising to the full its ideal location, alongside the M6, its position on the inter-city rail network, and proximity to two national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty.

This appointment is an expansion of Enterprise Lancaster and is directly responsible to the Town Clerk. This new post will involve liaising with industry and commerce in order to recommend, promote and review the Council's economic strategy designed to increase employment opportunities by the retention and expansion of existing, and the attraction and development of new, enterprises. The person appointed will be involved in providing advice and incentive to new and small businesses, the preparation of promotion and marketing plans and be the principal focus and information point for the Lancaster economic development plans.

Applicants, of high academic ability, should have sound experience at senior management level, gained either in the public or private sectors, and ideally some marketing experience in the development of industry or commerce. Personal qualities which will be sought include the ability to generate enthusiasm and interest, show entrepreneurial skills in achieving results and the ability to retain an objectivity in the treatment of people and business proposals.

The position is initially on a three year fixed contract. Further details are available from the undersigned (no application forms). Formal application, giving the names of two referees should be received not later than Thursday, 9th May, 1985. Telephone Lancaster (0524) 65272 extension 224. M. PEARSON, Town Clerk, Town Hall, Lancaster.

Lancaster
CITY COUNCIL

HOLLOWAY YOUTH WORKSHOPS LIMITED

(A New Initiative in Skills Training)

Holloway Youth Workshops Limited is a T.Y.S. Workshop Company funded by the M.C. and Education Council and set up to meet the training needs of young people in the area. The Project has been developed from a black education youth project in the area. The Project aims to provide a meaningful development of the clients potential. HWYL is a busy place Workshop.

5 POSTS

WORKSHOP MANAGER: Starting at £11,000.

Responsible for the Training, Marketing, Production and Financial Functions. Ensuring the implementation of agreed policies, procedures and methods in accordance with M.C. and Board of Directors. A successful candidate will have a minimum of 5 years experience in a similar position. Evidence of sound training and qualification required.

BOOKKEEPER/ADMINISTRATOR: £9,252

To take responsibility for all financial / administrative matters including accounts, PAYE, S.S.P., V.A.T., insurance, etc. Accurate typing, efficient computer use and ability to work with young people and sound experience in business / commerce desirable.

OFFICE SUPERVISOR: £9,772

The day to day control of the office service including reception and cooperation with the Bookkeeper / Administrator in ensuring the efficient and effective operation of all internal systems. Supervisory experience in office practice essential.

SUPERVISOR CARPENTRY: £9,772

Should have had industrial experience in woodworking. Machine shop preferably in supervisory capacity. Knowledge of woodworking machine operation essential.

For information and application forms, please phone or write to:

Holloway Youth Workshops Ltd.,
25-26 Chancery Lane, London WC2N 6JF
Tel: 01-409 47556

Closing date: 17th May 1985

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25-26 Chancery Lane, London WC2N 6JF
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HOUSING & PROPERTY SERVICES

Temporary Housing Advisory Officer (Area Improvement)

(Ref. H.71) Salary: £8772-£10,362 pa inc

Lambeth's Housing Advisory Services require Housing Advisory Officer on a temporary contract to provide cover for an Adviser on maternity leave. The vacancy is at Lambeth Action Centre which provides housing aid in Lambeth's housing action areas and general improvement areas within the private sector.

The main areas of work are landlord and tenant advice and house renovation grants. The postholder will need to work in close liaison with the Environmental Health Directorate.

You will be required to interview members of the public and advise them on their housing problems. You will also work as part of a small team where each Housing Advisory Officer covers two or three geographically defined areas and is expected to acquire a detailed knowledge of his/her area and to establish good links with the local community.

A working knowledge of landlord and tenant legislation will be essential. Previous experience of housing interview casework will be advantageous. An understanding and appreciation of the needs of this multi-racial inner city community is essential.

No formal qualifications are necessary, an imaginative and flexible approach to problem solving is important. Although this post is temporary the successful candidate will be aware of other vacancies within Lambeth as they arise.

Applications will be actively considered from candidates wishing to work on either a full time or part time basis. Individuals can apply for Job Sharing.

Closing date: 15 May 1985.

Assistant Internal Control Officer

(Ref. H.81) Salary: £8772-£9510 pa inc.

Under the supervision of the Internal Control Officer, the postholder will be required to carry out assessments of the section's performance in the implementation of legislation and Council policies.

In relation to this the postholder will be expected to investigate and highlight any discrepancies and put forward recommendations based on findings. Previous experience in the use of statistical methods and computer based information would be a distinct advantage. Additionally, sound administrative experience coupled with effective writing skills and analytical ability is an essential requirement.

Individuals may apply for job sharing.

Closing date: 10 May 1985.

Application forms and job descriptions are obtainable from the Personnel Department, Directorate of Housing and Property Services, London Borough of Lambeth, Hambrook House, Porden Road, Brixton SW2.

Tel: 01-274 7722 Ext. 2053.

SOCIAL SERVICES

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOCIAL SERVICES

The following post is available within a well established training team responsible for implementing Directorate training policy. Training is a key factor in promoting the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy. Successful applicants will be expected to vigorously pursue this Policy and relate training to the needs of black people and other minority groups. Personal experience of such disadvantaged groups would be an advantage. Work experience in a multi-cultural environment and awareness of the needs of a deprived inner city community is needed in addition to the training skills required for this post.

Training Officer

(Ref. SP/10) £11,994-£12,610 pa inc.

We have a vacancy for a full-time Training Officer to join a well established team responsible for a variety of aspects of the professional training of seconded employees. The postholder will be responsible for those employees seconded to COSW training and for all aspects of student placements within the Directorate. In addition you will have a key role to play in a variety of training and course activities designed to complement the professional training programme.

Candidates will need to possess and be able to demonstrate in their application a range of skills relevant to this area of adult learning and should have some experience of teaching or training in the statutory or voluntary sector.

Individuals can apply for job-sharing.

For further information please contact Wendy Clark on 01-671 5211.

Closing date: 9 May 1985.

FOR SOCIAL SERVICES APPLICATION FORMS ONLY PLEASE TELEPHONE 01-627 0564 (24 HOUR SERVICE) OR WRITE TO: THE RECRUITMENT SECTION, ROOM 500, 91 CLAPHAM HIGH STREET, LONDON SW4.

Benefits for most posts advertised include flexible working hours, subsidised staff canteen, sickness and superannuation scheme, generous annual leave.

As part of Lambeth's Equal Opportunities Policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of race, creed, nationality, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation or responsibility for children or dependants.

LAMBETH

SERVICES WELL WORTH DEFENDING

HOSTEL SUPERVISORS

St Mungo is an organisation working for the rehabilitation and resettlement of the single homeless in London.

We now require Supervisors for two of our hostels in Central London.

Candidates should have experience of working with the single homeless, should have a relevant qualification and should be able to work as a member of a team.

Salary £7,000 to £8,000. Four weeks' holiday p.a.

Please telephone for an application form to 01-266 1388. Closing date for applications: 10th May, 1985.

St Mungo Housing
217 Harrow Road, London W2

St Mungo HOUSING

Working for London's Homeless

Temporary Hostelworker

required from June for nine months (possibly becoming permanent). We are an established hostel for homeless women and work as a collective.

Hostel experience is not necessary but applicants should have some experience in finance and/or housekeeping and maintenance. A high standard of office practice and presentation are required and all staff are required to do their own typing and filing etc.

Women are actively encouraged to apply.

24 hour cover is provided, therefore shift work including weekends and sleep-ins are required.

Salary £10,063.56 pa including London Weighting, 35 hours per week, six weeks annual leave. Closing date 10th May, 1985. For further information and an application form, contact:

69 GREEK STREET HOSTEL, 69 GREEK STREET, SOHO, LONDON W1

ST. GABRIEL'S FAMILY CENTRE - BRIGHTON

TWO SENIOR PROJECT WORKERS

Salary: £8,532 - £11,025 (Subject to career grade assessment)

For the family work programme in a busy, established and well-resourced centre which promotes a wide range of services to families.

One post is to head a team of committed staff in family day care who operate a complex blend of therapy, education and growth for families with young children at risk. You would need skills in organisation and planning, team working, staff supervision, a good knowledge of child care (particularly under 5s) and child abuse work.

The other post would provide a direct practice input of family therapy, group work and marital work to family day care and other areas of the centre's work. This would include acting as a member of a family therapy team using video/mirror, student supervision and a developmental role.

Both postholders will be involved with the decision making and planning processes throughout the centre and its commitment to staff and agency development. Do you have these plus other skills that might enhance the work of the centre? Could you work in a co-operative and mutually supportive setting that encourages change and openness both in families and staff? Are you a qualified social worker with the training, experience, imagination and sense of humour needed for either of these posts?

If so, contact Graham Willis, Jo Tullock or Ellen Jones on Brighton (0273) 605040.

Application form/job description from: St. Gabriel's Family Centre, 18 Wellington Road, Brighton BN2 3AA.

The Church of England Children's Society is a Christian organisation which seeks in staff a readiness to grow in Christian faith and life.

Closing date: 17th May.

The Children's Society.

LAWRENCE WESTON FAMILY CENTRE

LAWRENCE WESTON, BRISTOL

PART-TIME PROJECT WORKER

(18½ hours per week)

£6,555-£10,107 (pro rata)

The Family Centre at Lawrence Weston, a large housing estate in Bristol, is a partnership between Avon Social Service Department and Dr Barnardos. A suitably qualified and experienced Social Worker is needed to work with families with under-fives, mainly in intensive work based at the Family Centre, but also with families in their own homes.

The part-time Project Worker will be part of a team of seven providing a range of services for young families in Lawrence Weston.

Knowledge and experience of working with families would be an advantage.

Barnardos is a Christian Child Care organisation and offers conditions of service broadly in line with local authorities. Applications for posts are welcomed from persons irrespective of disability, marital status, sex or race.

Transferable pension.

Application forms from Ray Jones, Assistant Divisional Director, 177 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1UD. Tel: Cardiff 485 592.

Enquiries to Brian Dismock, Project Leader. Tel: Bristol 824 578.

Closing date: 9th May, 1985.



WOLVERHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Come and work in our Psychiatry and Geriatric Team

We need qualified Social Workers to complete a newly formed team of eight providing social work services to the Geriatric, Psychiatric and Psycho-Somatic Departments within the Wolverhampton District Health Authority.

The person appointed will work closely with Psychiatrists in a multi-disciplinary setting but will have opportunity to take cases involving knowledge of current employment legislation.

The salary and benefits package is attractive and includes a contributory pension scheme (transfer facilities available) and a staff restaurant.

Please write for an application form to: The Personnel Manager (South), British Waterways Board, Willow Grange, Church Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 3QA, quoting reference number 02107.

Closing date: 11th May, 1985.

ST. FRANCIS' CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WORKER

Salary £11,562 to £12,645 p.a.

St. Francis' Children's Society, the Roman Catholic Adoption Agency covering Northants, Beds. and Bucks., is looking for a new worker to head their team of seven social workers.

The work covers infant adoption as well as special needs homing-in which is not specifically Catholic.

Ring Eddie Brocklesby, current post-holder, on (0462) 813317, or write to: The Administrator, Bishop's House, Marriot Street, Northampton, for further information.

WALTHAM FOREST WOMEN'S CENTRE

is looking for the following worker to join the collective

ADMINISTRATOR / DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Hours 35 per week (includes some evenings and weekends) Salary £8,781 (including London Weighting). Holidays: 5 weeks. Women are free to bring children, for whom they are responsible, to work but are encouraged to arrange their hours, where possible, in conjunction with crèche sessions.

We invite applications from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability.

Please write for job description and application form to: Waltham Forest Women's Centre, 5 Priory Avenue, London E17, or ring 01-620 5318. Please mark envelopes "Job ad".

All application forms to be returned by 4 May 1985.

Job is subject to funding. Funded by GLC Women's committee.

CITY OF CARLISLE AND EDEN DISTRICT COUNCILS

AND THE COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION

Applications are invited from men and women for the following vacancy:

COUNTRYSIDE PROJECT OFFICER

Scale 6 £8,532-£9,114 p.a.

We are looking for a Project Officer to run a new Countryside Management Scheme in the Eden Valley Area of East Cumbria initially for a period of three years based in Carlisle. The job will include planning and developing a range of countryside projects to be implemented through an M.S.G.-sponsored Project-Team.

Further details and application form, returnable by 15th May, 1985, from the Personnel and Training Officer, Town Clerk and Chief Executive Dept., Civic Centre, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2 8QG. Tel: 0228 23411, Ext. 283.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Derbyshire County Council

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

DCC Planning Department, together with DCC Community Programme Agency are to design and produce an environmental education resources guide, and have vacancies for part-time research assistants to be based at Derby Dele, Derbyshire. Applicants should have either a teaching certificate or degree in Natural History or similar, together with a commitment to conservation and outdoor education. Length of project 12 months, 3 days (22½ hours) per week, salary £9,252 pro rata.

This is a Community Programme Scheme and eligibility conditions apply. Interested applicants should consult their local job centre for eligibility details. If in doubt, please send letters of application to Mr R. T. Clark, Community Programme Agency, 18 Cromford Road, Ripley, Derbyshire.

Derbyshire County Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Inner London Education Authority

T.E.A. The Education Shop 75 Roman Road, London, E2

A FULL-TIME WORKER

required from September. Tasks include: design and development of educational materials, advice and counselling services for adults, and the design and development of educational materials. The post is funded by the Inner London Education Authority and will be responsible to the Management Committee.

Salary scale in accordance with the Inner London Education Authority's pay scale. The successful candidate will be required to work on a full-time basis.

All posts graded Lecturer 1 to Principal Lecturer are considered. Applications for job sharing will be accepted. An interview will be held on a personal basis.

For further information and application form, please contact: T.E.A., at the above address, Tel: 01-409 47556.

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Personnel and Training Officer for development charity

VSO is a development charity with over 1,000 skilled volunteers working in many of the world's less developed countries.

We need, at our London office, a Personnel and Training Officer to make a creative and imaginative contribution to our programme of pre-departure orientation and training for volunteers and to our recruitment and training of staff.

Candidates must have: experience of planning and conducting training courses using a variety of techniques; excellent communication and administrative skills and a real interest in overseas development. Previous experience of working/living overseas and of staff selection would be very useful.

Benefits include 25 working days holiday a contributory pension scheme, season ticket loans and 50p per day L.V. Salary on a scale £9,128 - £9,792 (next review 1.7.85).

For further details and an application form please contact Alison Smith, VSO, 9 Belgrave Square, SW1X 8PW. Tel 01-2355191. Closing date

Implementation Planners

Salary £13,137 - £14,229

Planning Administrator

Salary £8,772 - £10,362

London Docklands Development Corporation is responsible for securing the permanent regeneration of London's Docklands.

An increasing planning workload is one indicator of the Corporation's success in bringing about a significant and growing volume of development. As Development Control Authority for its designated area we are able, therefore, to offer opportunities for two Implementation Planners and a Planning Administrator.

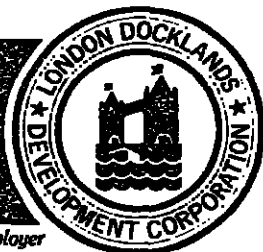
Implementation Planner candidates should be able to offer a broad base of experience in an urban planning department with direct involvement in both development control and implementation. Planning Administrator candidates should have a good working knowledge of planning law and practice, and be able to demonstrate the ability to provide a

good public information and consultation service. Experience of a computerised planning application system would also be an advantage.

The Corporation operates on a decentralised basis and the successful candidates will work as integral members of interdisciplinary Area Teams with delegated responsibility for the operational achievement of a range of development programmes. These posts offer exciting and challenging opportunities to make a significant contribution to urban regeneration.

Candidates should write to me for an application form and further details: David Lowman, Personnel Manager, London Docklands Development Corporation, West India House, London, E14 9TJ.

We intend to start reviewing applications on May 13, 1985.



CONCEPTS INTO ACTION

An equal opportunity employer

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

£11,552 - £12,275 (including London Weighting)

The building works for a new housing project in the centre of Brixton have now commenced, which is due to open early in 1986. The project will offer accommodation and support to people who have experienced emotional and psychological distress and will be managed by a new voluntary organisation.

The steering group is now seeking to appoint a co-ordinator for the project whose main responsibilities will be:

- to assist in the preparation and execution of the operational policy
- to promote the work of the project within the community
- to liaise with the architect, funding authorities and the statutory and voluntary sector
- to assist the steering group in the appointment of staff
- to manage the project when it opens.

We are looking for someone with experience in mental health. Previous experience in the management of a residential or day care project would be an advantage but other related experience will be considered such as in housing, community work or the voluntary sector.

Applicants should have an appreciation of the needs of ethnic minority groups, particularly in relation to mental health. Application forms from The Special Projects Section, London & Quadrant Housing Trust, Osborn House, Osborn Terrace, London SE5 8DF. Tel. 01-852 9181 Ext. 274.

For an informal discussion about the job, please ring Frances German Tel. 01-720 0220 Ext 234 or Ian Wilson Tel. 01-737 1331. Closing date for applications is 8th May. Applications are welcome from candidates regardless of sex, ethnic origin or physical disability.

NOTTINGHAM HELP AND HOMELESS ASSOCIATION LIMITED

DIRECTOR

£10,107 to £11,025 p.a.

N.H.A. is a charity which operates a night shelter plus 3 long term homes for homeless people in the City of Nottingham. The postholder (male or female) will be responsible for the management of all N.H.A. projects in accordance with the policy of the N.H.A. Council of Management and in close liaison with elected officers. Duties will include staff management and project administration. There will be administrative duties in connection with Council of Management meetings plus liaison with other authorities and agencies including the D.H.S.S., other voluntary bodies and local authority departments. Experience of residential care work together with experience of dealing with clients with drink and drug related problems is desirable. Previous management experience is essential. Written applications should be sent to the Reverend Eric Ashby, 25 St. Peter's Road, Hucknall, Nottingham. Closing date: 10th May, 1985.



Assistant Director

Services for Elderly & Disabled People

SALARY UP TO £17,280 (Plus a temporary allowance of £1,002) (Under review)

We are looking for an imaginative, creative and energetic manager who can make a major contribution to the management and continuing development of services for elderly and disabled people.

You should have an appropriate qualification, organisational and leadership skills, together with substantial management experience at a senior level in a large organisation.

Informal discussion welcomed with Robin SeQuerra, Director of Social Services (Dorchester 63131 Ext 4317). Application forms returnable by 13 May, 1985, and further details from the Director of Social Services, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ. (Please quote reference PO 300).



TOYNBEE CAB

Advice Worker

(3 days per week)

This busy bureau deals with a wide variety of inquiries mainly in the areas of welfare benefits, housing and immigration nationality.

Ability to speak Bengali or Somali an advantage. Advice work experience desirable but in-service training provided. Salary £3,772 - £10,362 pro rata.

Closing date 17 May 1985. For application form please send stamped self-addressed A4 envelope marked Ref: E42 to Marian Protosiewicz, GLCABS, 31 Wellington Street, London WC2E 6EJ. This post is funded by the GLC but on a permanent contract.

As an Equal Opportunities Employer GLCABS wishes to encourage positively all applications regardless of disability, race, sex or creed.



Officer in Charge—Drovers Way

£9,305 to £10,299 inclusive

Drovers Way, a children's home in Bracknell, provides care for six adolescents aged between 15 and 18 years. In addition to giving structure and a sense of purpose to daily living, an essential part of the work is to help in preparation and support for future independence. As Officer in Charge you will be a key member of our Children and Families Group, comprising Residential and Fieldwork Managers. We will be appointing someone with the ability and enthusiasm to make an effective contribution to both present and future practice. To meet this demanding role you will need:

- a professional qualification (CSS or CQSW)
- a proven track record in child care, preferably in a residential setting
- management/supervisory experience
- a commitment to an inter-team approach

In return we offer good professional support, facilities for post qualification training and the opportunity to join a team of highly committed workers.

If you would like to know more, please contact Barry Nicholson for an informal discussion. Application forms and further details from Personnel Section, Social Services Department, Fitzwilliam House, Skimped Hill Lane, Bracknell, Tel.: Bracknell 426011.

Social Workers

FOR GENERIC SOCIAL WORK AT ITS BEST

£7,065 with possible progression to £10,107

Reading is the busy and expanding County Town of Berkshire. It offers qualified Social Workers the opportunity to base and develop all their skills. The friendly supportive intake team provides the generic service to the Division and is backed by excellent supervision and in-service training. Sadly, an experienced Team member is leaving and a second post is unexpectedly re-availing. This is your chance to join us. One of these posts could carry special responsibilities in Mental Health. For informal discussion contact Mr. J. Hewett, Principal Social Worker, on Reading 586111.

Temporary Part-Time Social Worker

(9 hours per week)

Salary within the range £1,718 to £2,458

Reading Divisional Intake Team is Social Work at its busy best. We need you for this temporary post if you are qualified, but perhaps unable to work full-time. Contact Mr. J. Hewett, Principal Social Worker, for an informal discussion on Reading 586111.

Application forms from Personnel Section, Social Services Department, Abbey Mill House, Abbey Square, Reading. Tel.: Reading 586111, Ext. 500. Closing date: 13th May for all positions. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Royal County of Berkshire

Ceredigion District Council

Technical Services Department

CHIEF QUANTITY SURVEYOR

PO: £11,889-£12,981

Applications are invited from fully qualified Members of the RICS. The postholder will be responsible for advising on construction financial monitoring and programming for a wide range of construction and maintenance projects carried out by contractors and by direct labour. Further particulars and application form from the Personnel Officer, Town Hall, Aberystwyth, Dyfed. Tel. (0970) 617911. Closing date: 14th May, 1985.

HOUSING MANAGER

Salary range circa £12,000 per annum plus Company car or essential car user's allowance. The successful applicant will be responsible for the Chief Executive for organising and controlling a sensitive and efficient Housing Management and Maintenance Service. The Association operates a formally constructed Sub-Committee system to which the postholder will report. Initiative, energy, sense of humour, experience in Housing Management and relating to tenants and staff plus an appropriate professional qualification will be an advantage.

The appointment is open to members of either sex. Applications in writing, including C.V. and the names of two referees must be sent by Tuesday, 14th May, 1985, to the Chief Executive, HOBURY HOUSE, 4 BETHUNDA PLACE, LIVERPOOL L15 5EP.

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

VACANCIES IN THE THIRD WORLD

Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique and Swaziland

Current requirements: construction supervisors, architects, planners, civil engineers, teachers, agriculturalists, poultry/hatchery coordinators, rural development coordinators, printed facilities craft instructors, doctors, nurses, occupational / physiotherapist, medical lab technicians, accountants, teachers, science, mathematics, EPL, remedial, primary, and pre-school / infant for health education. Two year contract including modest living allowance and flights. Regret no funding for dependants. Applicants must be resident in the UK or Ireland. For further details and short CV, please apply to: Kathy Barrow, International Voluntary Service, G21, 53 Regent Rd, Leicester, LE1 0TL.

FELLOWSHIP HOUSE ASIAN WOMEN'S PROJECT

INFORMATION AND ADVICE WORKER

FHAWP is a well-established project for Asian women and their families living in Newham. We are a multi-racial borough and 26% of our population are from different minority ethnic origins. The project aims to provide, through language training, a comprehensive service of support for Asian women. Knowledge of some of the Asian languages is essential. Applicants are welcomed who have relevant experience as well as awareness of the issues faced by Asians. For further information: The Secretary, St Bartholomew's Church & Centre, 292B Barking Road, East Ham, London E6 3BA.

Ramblers' Association

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR

required as soon as possible to run busy computerised membership department of a voluntary organisation in Visual. We want a first class administrator with a proven track record in computer and membership systems an advantage. Salary £5,500 neg. Phone Ramblers' Association 01-582 6876

COMMUNITY PROGRAMME SECTION

NACRO is currently running 78 Community Programme Schemes on which there are over 7,000 places providing employment opportunities for long-term unemployed, ex-offenders working on projects of community benefit, many of which are focused on reducing crime and the fear of crime in disadvantaged areas.

Regional Development Officers

To develop and manage new and existing Schemes under the NSC's Community Programme provision. These challenging positions would suit those who enjoy being given considerable responsibility for organising their own work. In addition, a background knowledge of one or more of the following areas would be an advantage: MSC activities, particularly the Community Programme; the prison and probation services; local authorities; trade unions; working with ethnic minorities.

The posts, as listed below, will be based at Regional Offices, where there are also a number of support staff.

York/Humberdale based in Leeds
N. Wales/Mid-West based in Market Drayton
Midlands based in Birmingham

Salary: £10,404 (incremental scale).

Operations Officers

To assist Regional Development Officers in development work and other duties. Organisational or administrative experience or knowledge on MSC systems could be an advantage. The posts will be based at:

North East based in Newcastle
York/Humberdale based in Leeds
N. Wales/Mid-West based in Market Drayton
E. Anglia/Kent based in Colchester
South West based in Exeter

Salary: £9,114 (incremental scale).

Car available with all posts.

Closing date: 13th May, 1985.

Write for details, stating clearly which post you are interested in and enclosing a large self-addressed envelope, to: Paula Gordon, NACRO, 22 Section 54 Bradford Street, Birmingham B5 5HX. (021-622 5191).

As an equal opportunities employer, we welcome applications from anyone regardless of colour, ethnic origin or sex, and from disabled people and ex-offenders.

NACRO

For the care of offenders and the prevention of crime

MIND

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

WARRINGTON — PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Salary £5,851 to £9,038

3-year fixed term contract

Do you want an exciting post with a vigorous voluntary organisation helping develop community services for mentally handicapped people? MIND is wanting to appoint a Project Development Officer for three years based in Warrington.

The job means working closely with the health district and social services department to develop ordinary living schemes for mentally handicapped people moving out of the local hospital. This will mean meeting with mentally handicapped people, assessing their individual needs and developing particular community based provision. MIND has an interest in representing ALL mentally ill people and consequently seeks positively to encourage applicants equally regardless of race, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. Job offers welcome. Generous holidays: LVS.

Job description and application form from: General Secretary (M), MIND (NAMES), 22 Harley Street, London W1N 2ED. Closing date for receipt of completed applications: 10th May, 1985. Tel: 285255.

amnesty international

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT in the MIDDLE EAST RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

to work in its London-based International Secretariat. Executive Assistants are primarily responsible for liaising with Amnesty International's groups around the world to provide information relating to Amnesty International's human rights concerns and recommend action on behalf of prisoners.

Fluent Arabic and English are essential. French would be useful. Executive Assistants must be able to type. Salary: £8,930 per annum (index-linked annual increments). For a detailed job specification and application form please contact The Personnel Officer, Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ. Tel: 01-857 3806 (24 hour). Tel: 285255.

Closing date for return of completed application forms 7th June 1985.

COMMUNITY DESIGN SERVICES

has a vacancy for

ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT OFFICER

Salary £7,200 p.a.

Applicant must have at least exemption from part 2 of the RIBA examinations.

For further information and application form by writing: Martin Deaville, The Community Design Services, The Maltings, East Tyndall Street, Cardiff CF1 5EA.

WELFARE RIGHTS AND ADVOCACY WORK

in an Educational setting

Loughborough Students' Union has a vacancy for a Rights Adviser in its Research and Welfare Department. The successful applicant will undertake client casework, including representation in tribunals and appeals. The appointment is currently on APS £7,524 to £9,114 with the initial appointment to be made on APS. To discuss the post in more detail telephone Mike Shaker on (0509) 217765. A prospectus and application form is available from: Christina Harby, Research and Welfare Department, Union Building, Ashby Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3TT, and should be returned by 13th May, 1985. Loughborough Students' Union is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

FIELD DIRECTOR

SOMALIA

required for an ophthalmic team upgrading hospital staff and training primary health care workers in Northern Somalia. Includes setting up, administration and co-ordination of the medical team's activities, including planning and evaluation. Candidates must have previous overseas development work, preferably in a health or administrative capacity. The appointment will initially be for three months, but an open ended contract is envisaged if early phases completed satisfactorily. Salary £6,000 p.a.

Please send a full CV as soon as possible to: Chris Gittins, Help the Aged, St James's Walk, London EC1R 9BE.

Help the Aged

HOUSING ACTION CENTRE

HOUSING ADVISER

An independent housing aid centre in north Kensington, London giving advice on all housing problems needs a Housing Adviser to join a team of nine. Experience in housing advice would be useful but not essential. Advice is given to our callers as Specialist or Adviser. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer. There is an excellent pension scheme. Salary scale £5,775-£9,555 including London Weighting. For further information contact: Housing Action Centre, 140 Ladbroke Grove, London W10 2ND. Telephone 01-669 2455. Closing date Tuesday 14th May.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY PARK LANE HOSPITAL MAGHULL, LIVERPOOL

SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER (SENIOR PRACTITIONER)

THE HOSPITAL: Park Lane is a new Special Hospital directly administered by the Department of Health and Social Security providing treatment under conditions of security for mentally disordered male patients who are compulsorily detained under the Mental Health Act.

THE JOB: Particular emphasis is placed upon Psychiatric Social Work at an advanced level and there is considerable scope for therapeutic work in connection with the psycho-social and family problems of the patients. Treatment programmes are directed towards rehabilitation and re-socialisation, and consequently the Social Work Department places particular emphasis on arrangements for the rehabilitation of patients and on liaison with Local Authority departments and other Social Work agencies. In addition the job presents excellent opportunities for participation in treatment and discharge procedures within a multi-disciplinary team setting, with an emphasis on group identity.

THE CANDIDATE: The successful candidate should hold a qualification in Social Work approved by the Council for Training in Social Work and have at least two years' post qualification experience in a relevant professional setting. Motivation to seek further professional development is required. Where possible every encouragement will be given to enable special skills or interest to be developed. Candidates with an interest in working with groups may find the post stimulating and interesting.

SALARY: £10,579-£11,600 p.a. (inclusive of Special Hospitals Higher Environmental Allowance currently payable at £284 p.a.).

The post is superannuable under the NHS Superannuation Scheme. Pensions married or single persons accommodation may be available if required. Application forms and job description may be obtained from The Secretary, Advisory Appointments Committee, Park Lane Hospital, Maghull, Liverpool L31 1BD. (Telephone: 051-531 0022, extension 254).

If further information is required, or if applicants would like to visit the hospital, they should contact Mr R. Respatrick, Principal Social Worker (ext. 542). Closing date for application forms: 2nd May 1985.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

SENIOR ASSISTANT

— EMPLOYMENT

£11,907 - £13,680

This is a new post within the Department of Personnel and Management Services responsible for the effective application of the Council's equal opportunities policy. Working with other specialist personnel professionals the postholder will advise and assist in the development of staffing and employee relations practices and procedures, training and educational measures.

The successful candidate will be self-motivated, committed and experienced in the application of an equal opportunities policy and ideally be educated to degree level. Application forms and further details are available from the Director of Personnel and Management Services, City of Edinburgh District Council, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1PL. Telephone: 031-222 2424 Ext 6412. Closing date for applications: 10th May 1985.

Edinburgh District Council is an equal opportunities employer. Applications are invited from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of ethnic origin, disability, or sexual orientation, who have the necessary attributes for the post.

IMPROVING SERVICES — CREATING JOBS

City of Edinburgh

CENTREPOINT SOHO

wishes to appoint a

FINANCIAL CO-ORDINATOR

This is a newly created post that will take responsibility for setting up a comprehensive accounting and book-keeping system. An IBM XT computer will be available and applicants must have computer experience.

We are looking for someone who has the enthusiasm and willingness to work in the voluntary sector and who has a successful track record. Salary: NJC Scale 6 (under review). Holidays: 6 weeks p.a.

Also

CENTREPOINT'S MEDIUM STAY HOSTEL requires a

HOSTEL SOCIAL WORKER

A 6th member is required to join our team working with 10 residents of both sexes aged 18 to 25. We offer counselling and practical guidance within this social work hostel and are therefore looking for a caring, sensitive and experienced worker. Salary: Scale 4 point 21-£8,313 (under review). Holidays: 7 weeks per annum.

Centrepoint is an equal opportunities employer. Please apply to the Administrative Secretary at Centrepoint Soho, 53 Long Acre, London WC2E 6LJ. (Tel. 01-579 3486) for further details and application form. Closing date for both posts: Friday, 10th May, 1985.

HARINGEY ARTS COUNCIL

requires

2 DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

SALARIES £10,134 MINIMUM (SOT-502 DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE) Two full-time workers are needed to share joint responsibility for co-ordinating and implementing an area development initiative in the neighbourhoods, buildings and groups in the Borough funded by the GLC. It is essential that, between them, the two workers have experience of: — working with African, Caribbean, Asian and Cypriot communities — community development — projects — community/black/ethnicities arts — a range of practical, organisational and administrative skills. GLC funding for the posts is available for 18 months. Further details and application form are available from: Haringey Arts Council, c/o 25 Station Road, Wood Green, LONDON N22 6UX. Telephone: 01-881 3000 Ext 2222.

Closing date: Friday 17 May.

HARINGEY ARTS COUNCIL IS A REGISTERED CHARITY AND AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER. Job offers welcome.

AGE CONCERN

CAMPAIGN ORGANISER (AGE WELL)

Age Concern England and the Health Education Council are running a campaign for two years to encourage community based health activities for older people, to complement the Health Education Council's programme on health in old age.

Based at Age Concern's office in Middlesbrough, the Campaign Organiser will co-ordinate and publicise this campaign including a series of eight regional "shows".

Proven organisational and publicity skills are essential, and a knowledge of health issues and elderly people is desirable.

Salary in range £9,005 to £10,534 p.a. inclusive. Contributory pension scheme, four weeks' leave plus five weeks' holiday. Further details from: Personnel Department, Age Concern England, 60 Piccadilly Road, Middlesbrough, Cumbria TS1 3LL. Closing date: Friday, 2nd May.

NEWCROSS PLAYBUS ASSOCIATION

is an established Community Group, which requires

TWO WORKERS

to work in the Multi-Racial area of Brockley, Newcross and Deptford, to sustain and develop facilities for under-25s. Experience with Community groups is desirable and an ordinary driving licence is necessary. Because of the racial mix of the parents and children using the bus, we welcome applications from people from all racial groups. Salary £3,140 per annum for 35 hours per week.

For application forms and further information please contact: Joan Douglas, 44 Alverton Street, Deptford, SE8. Tel: 01-492 4278. Closing date: 7th May, 1985.

This project is funded by Lewisham Council and the GLC.

150-160

DIARY

THE Deputy Speaker, Mr Harold Walker, could find only one precedent for the sort of behaviour Dr David Owen got up to in the House yesterday. He scuttled off to his backroom and turned with some satisfaction to p.419 where he studied the precedent set by, yes, Harold Walker one evening in 1979 when, as a backbencher in a deserted adjournment debate, he had spoken from the dispatch box. Sadly, he was denied the special pleasure of ruling on the matter.

MRS Victoria Gillick is becoming bishful. She refused to start addressing a meeting of the shadowy British Housewives' League in London yesterday until a photographer was prevented from taking her picture. Her co-speaker, Dr Ellen Grant, had just given a case history of a woman "with far too many children — eight or nine." Mrs Gillick has ten.

THE forthcoming elections in Northern Ireland seem to have spawned a number of political parties. The DUP, in particular, has acquired a variety of parties all ending in the initials APN. All Night Parties. Pity the poor returning officer. The DUP is the DUP, the DUP is the DUP, the DUP is the DUP. It stands for the Reverend Juan King All Night Party, which you have to say with a slight Spanish lilt fully to appreciate. Less subtle is the ESANP, the Black Shun ANP. Also holding a candidate are the ASSANP, the Anarchist Syndicalist, Socialist ANP and the CNAISP — the (draw a deep breath) Captain Floccigaudiniphication All Night Sensible Party.

THE RCS has come under further attack from a number of Labour MPs who have tabled a motion condemning their behaviour and noting "that many Conservative students would do well to model their behaviour on that of Scottish football supporters." The motion explores Conservative students to stay away from the forthcoming Scotland-England match at Hampden.

THE insidious campaign to discredit Mr Clive Ponting continues. H. Smith's London Bridge shop is displaying his book, *The Right To Know*, under *Humour*.

NOTHING is ever simple in Brent politics. An all-party group from the borough is to see Sir George Young on Thursday. They plan to take a couple of homeless people with them. This, they say, was all agreed with the DoE until yesterday, when Sir George's private secretary rings up and says, sorry, no homeless people. They would be a diversion from the issue. Brent party promptly withdraws from meeting. DoE deny ever agreeing. Sir George confers with advisers and says, no homeless people on Thursday but "I pop in and see some homeless people next time I'm in Brent. Brent party confers and says, providing Sir George visits homeless people in their hotels. And so the two sides tiptoe towards Thursday.

A DATE has been set for the prosecution of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd for their alleged radioactivities in Sellafield. It is to start on June 5, World Environment Day.

SEEN outside the Intourist office in London: a blue Rolls-Royce, registration number KGB 347.

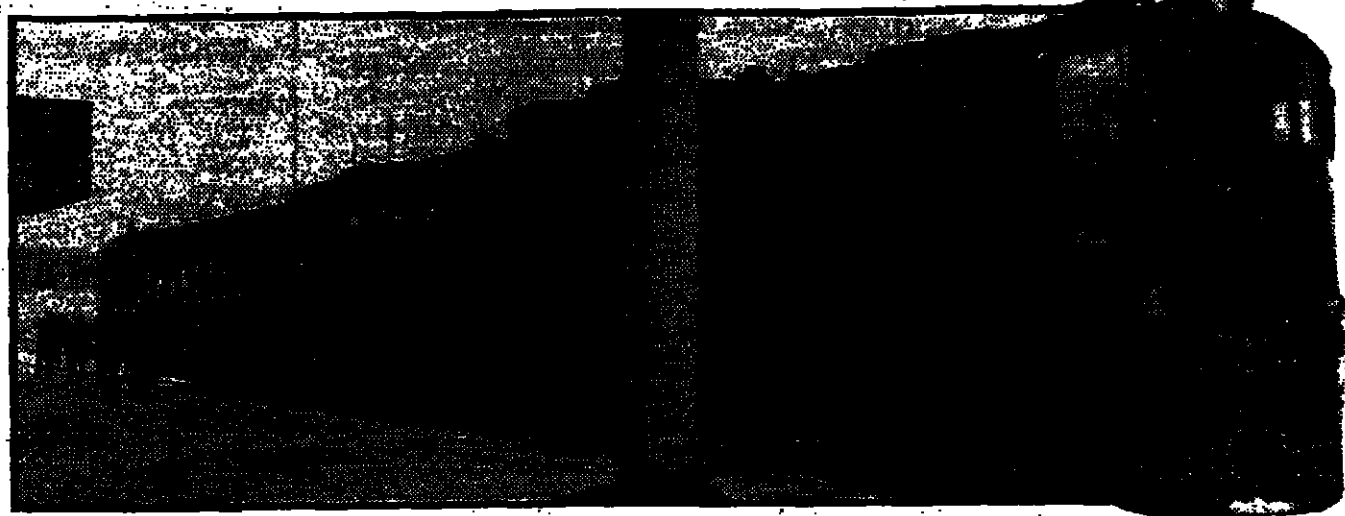
DENG Xiaoping is buying some wallpaper for his office and VIP lounge. He has gone for a new range of vinyl papers produced by the Blackburn firm of Graham and Brown. Mr Ray Smith, the firm's sales manager, is unsurprised. "We're the brand leader," he points out. "We're advertised on telly." The chosen paper is a flock-work-textured and washable.

THE Treasury's recent findings of the staff inspection report on the Royal Library at Windsor will never be published "because there are parts that impinge on personal and private activities of the Royal Family." We will never know what the Queen reads in bed.

ANOTHER sighting of the M & S yucca plant rumour is reported by Mrs J. M. Lonsdale of Epsom, Hampshire. In her version the buyer rang Kew Gardens, who discovered one adult tarantula and no fewer than 11 baby ones.

Alan Rusbridger

THE FROZEN FRONTIER



A locomotive on the Bam line (below): prospectors at work in ore-rich Siberia



MARTIN WALKER reports on the completion of a new trans-Siberian railway that is opening up the east

The taiga tamers

IN OCTOBER of last year, there were fanfares in the Soviet media to announce that one of the greatest feats of engineering of modern times, the second Trans-Siberian railway, had at last been finished, and a train could follow the full 2,000 miles route to the Pacific Ocean.

This was not a lie, but it certainly stretched the truth. There is one vital sector of the Bam Railway, as this fearsome northern route is called, which is now being very hurriedly rebuilt. The main line north, Muisk tunnel has proved a geological disaster. Granite rock merges with soft sand and hot springs bubble up through the rock to wear away the tunnel lining, and the whole mountain range is a seismic zone. The constant delays and collapses have persuaded Soviet geologists to admit an honourable draw, if not defeat, and they are now building an alternative roundabout route that will not be completed for another three years.

But a train can take the whole route, as long as it is not hauling much of a load. There is a working line, with a steep 4 per cent gradient that simply cannot be used by the special train engines and their 10,000 ton loads of iron ore that the line was designed to carry.

Rebuilding this minor hiccup in the dramatic technical achievement is the petting of Russia has come to expect of the Western press. "Russia" rather than the Soviet Union, because when the first Trans-Siberian Railway was built 80 years ago, the British press of the day insisted that since the tracks were being laid across the ice of Lake Baikal, it could hardly be called an all-weather railway.

The British were particularly snuffy because the first Trans-Siberian railway was supposed to cross Lake Baikal on British-built ferries. But there was a war on at the time (with the Japanese) and there was not enough time to reassemble the ferries from the component parts into which they had been broken down. Hence the rails across the ice and the 14-mile long hole in the ice when the train fell through.

But the engineering problems of the first railway were child's play compared with the difficulties of building the Bam, the Baikal-Amur mainline. It crosses seven major mountain ranges, 16 big rivers, including the mile-wide Amur where the bridge required the invention of a new system of laying foundations, and several hundred ravines and gorges. There are 138 bridges and nine tunnels, including the troublesome North Muisk and a mile-long tunnel through permafrost.

Late at night, and after many vodka, the Russians will reveal the real reason why they built it: the first Trans-Siberian is uncomfortably close to the Chinese border, this new lifeline of the Soviet Union is more than a hundred inhospitable miles more secure.

In addition to that, the Bam will allow them to develop one and a half million square kilometres of the world's richest real estate. At Udokan, there is a deposit of copper ore that is 27 per cent pure. You can virtually run electricity through the ground. There are coal deposits so rich that already, five machines in an open cast mine are producing as much coal as Britain does in a year. There is iron ore, gold, lead, zinc, long-fibre asbestos and some minerals so new that they have only just been named.

All of this had to be built in winters where the temperature reaches 60 C below, and summers where the sweltering 40 C heat is but a minor irritant compared with the clouds of giant mosquitoes which mean the entire workforce is swathed in those face nets that beekeepers use.

until the thing is built. The communist youth are inspired to volunteer for labour brigades, and each of the Soviet republics and great cities sponsors one section of the project. Any ambitious young communist with his eyes on a Politburo seat knows that he is well-advised to join the great crusade, work like the devil and hope to win a hero of labour medal.

Leonid Khazakov provides an excellent example. Eleven years ago, as a keen young Komsomol official, he arrived to build the first station on the Bam line as part of the Desant team. "At 40C below, the bulldozers and machines cease to work. Only flesh and blood function. We would work for 30 minutes and then go back into the warmth for 10 minutes, then back to work again. There was a real spirit of comradeship. All of us young together, learning the skills of our work, and every day seeing our achievements, seeing houses and town starting to rise where there had been only, the Taiga," he said quoting almost exactly what he had previously told Russian journalists.

He was wearing an elegant pearl grey suit with light blue shirt and silk tie, and imported ankle-length Chelsea boots. Tall and lithe with very clear blue eyes, he was an imposing figure who could have stepped from a Komsomol recruiting poster. On his lapel, he wore the

The Bam project shows the Soviet Union at what it does best, mobilising a vast national effort behind a single, and fairly simple goal. Most of the great Soviet achievements have been done this way, at least since the end of Stalin's gigantic labour camp system. Homeed over the years, the system now runs like clockwork. The Politburo makes a great decision. The media pull out the propaganda stops for the decade or so

single gold star and red ribbon of the hero of labour award, which opens rather more doors in Russia than an old Etonian tie does in Britain.

Leonid can now expect to be a member of the Soviet elite for the rest of his life, and if the USSR had a tabloid press, they would probably describe him as one of the Bam-gang. Each of these mammoth projects that the Soviet Union has built has produced its own mafia of rising young engineers who become apparatchiks, just as Leonid Brezhnev built his career on the building site of Dnepropetrovsk.

The exploits of Leonid and his brigade have already become Soviet myth. As the train chugs into the station they built, you see high on a bluff where you might expect to find a war memorial, the original amphibious vehicle in which Leonid and the boys arrived. Behind the Mussolini-style station of marble and arches the town climbs up the hill to the building site where the Bam museum is under construction. This town of Zvezdnyi (which could be translated as the "place of stars") is to be the tourist centre of the Bam achievement.

Bam differs from similar projects in the West, such as the Alaskan pipeline, in that it is more than just a machine for getting iron ore from the mine to the factories. It is an artery of settlement, not just communication. So all along the

Bam track, at every 100 km or so there is an inconspicuously large station and a small but growing town behind it. Built for the construction brigade, these towns are now being converted into timber treatment plants, geological centres — physical evidence of the almost mystic sense of a Russian mission to exploit and tame and ultimately to settle the vast challenge of Siberia.

Down at the end of the line from the future tourist centre of Zvezdnyi is the much smaller settlement of Utkan. The station is similarly grand and impressive, and the inhabitants of the town were so proud to see a foreign journalist that they had a bus waiting at the station entrance to provide a tour of the place. This lasted exactly 34 seconds, including the time spent turning round at the end of the only street of modern buildings.

The city fathers of Utkan then led the way into the civic complex, which contained a cinema, two shops and a public cafeteria, and from the stage of the small cinema, delivered a lecture on the achievements and prospects of the town. There were stocky men in lumpy suits with scarred workmen's hands that looked like bunches of sausages.

There will be no museum and no tourist trade at Utkan, just a service centre for the railroad and a timber processing complex. One of the stocky men asked about life "na zapadye" in the

West. We began to speak of life in Western Europe. No, no, he said, he meant life in Moscow. That was "the West" to him.

Utkan is still a quiet place, with one local passenger train a day, and in a whole day and night on the line, I saw only one modest freight train, carrying timber. When the new route around the troubled tunnel is finished, it will be as busy as the Trans-Siberian itself, with its three minute gap between trains.

The idea is that Bam should not only carry out the raw materials of Northern Siberia, but also become the standard line of communication between Europe and the Pacific. Already the Russians boast that they can ship containers by rail from Japan to Western Europe in half the time it takes by sea. There is a curious irony here, because it was Stalin who first decreed that the Bam line should be built, and by 1941 when the war began, the forced labour battalions had built 180 kilometres. Work then stopped. And in the winter of 1942 they ripped up the rails and hauled them back to the River Volga, to be used to build a special supply line for the Red Army's great counter-attack on Stalingrad. So the first Bam lines helped beat the Germans, and the new Bam lines will be supplying them with Siberian ores and Japanese exports.

Tomorrow: Lake Baikal

The decision of the United States Congress still leaves the Reagan Administration with a number of difficult choices as to how to handle the situation in Nicaragua. TONY JENKINS reports on the view from Managua

Lies that fuel war

THE WHITE House campaign to bring \$14 million from Congress to continue its covert war against Nicaragua, and President Reagan's exaggerated comments about the nature of the Sandinista government may well have served to obscure the political facts of life about this country.

Most of Mr Reagan's claims are inaccurate. Nicaragua, he says, is "a Communist dictatorship" ruled by a "small clique," which has "rendered the democratic freedoms of speech, press and assembly punishable by death." Listening to such denunciations it is easy to forget that 60 per cent of the economy is still in private hands, the per cent of the seats in parliament are held by six of the nine opposition political parties, and the privately-owned opposition newspaper, *La Prensa*, while often harshly censorious, still regularly publishes scathing attacks on the government.

In terms of human rights and political freedoms, Nicaragua is clearly in a far better position than its neighbours, Guatemala and El Salvador, which are both supported by the Reagan Administration.

But the domestic differences between the political groupings in Nicaragua are still enormous. There is no internal consensus between the Sandinistas and the conservative opposition.

In this acrimonious debate both sides have yet to prove that they are prepared to commit themselves to a pluralist solution. It is this division which Washington has been able to exploit — and turn into a devastating war.

La the case of the Sandinistas, there is a formidable unwillingness to accept a role for the opposition. The concept of an alternation in power is foreign to them. As one senior Western diplomat recently complained, "They tell you they are in power because they won the revolution, and because they fought the dictatorship singlehandedly for 20 years and won the right to govern. That's true, but they see no reason to put their government to a real regular electoral test."

the Independent Liberal Party, both complain that until now the best-known opposition alliance, the Democratic Coordinating Committee, (CND), has been dominated by these pro-American politicians.

The CND does not stand in the elections, arguing that the conditions did not guarantee a free and fair campaign. But since then, Arturo Cruz, who was to have been the CND presidential candidate, has joined the "contras."

Dr Luis Rivas, who is one of the CND leaders and president of the Social Democratic Party, admits that "it is true that we have never really tried to build up a big membership or tried to show our strength by organising regular demonstrations. Perhaps it is a mistake, but we prefer to get European and Latin American governments to put pressure on the Sandinistas."

Another CND leader, Emilio Rapado, president of the Conservative Party, says "there is no room for the Sandinistas in Nicaragua. They must go."

Tomás Borge, for his part, points to the fact that the CND and *La Prensa* both receive money from the Foundation for Democracy, which is funded by the US government. "Their heart is in Miami," he says. "They would sell their country. We will never negotiate with these people."

Mr Jarquin and Dr Godoy are now trying to organise an alliance to alter the direction of the internal opposition to unseat the pro-American faction. If they succeed, they would distance the opposition from the US-backed guerrillas and try to concentrate on building up support in the country, as a way of persuading the Sandinistas to negotiate.

Mr Jarquin fears the continuing "contra" war, which Mr Reagan has said he will continue to support no matter what Congress decides. Mr Jarquin points out that "the war justifies Sandinista emergency measures and it is polarising the people. More and more people are seeking a military solution. We need a respite to preserve some room for political negotiations."

Support the Charter for Jobs.

1. We believe that the present level of unemployment is economically wasteful and socially corrosive. The Government can and must stimulate the creation of more jobs.
2. There is useful work crying out to be done. With extra spending we could renovate our cities and improve the health of our people, while lower taxes on jobs would raise private spending power and make us more competitive. To make this possible there has to be some increase in government borrowing. Government

borrowing should normally rise in a depression. When there is useful work to be done, it is as sensible for the government to borrow money as for firms or families to do so.

3. The government has a special responsibility for the million and a quarter people who have been unemployed for over a year.

These people should be guaranteed the offer of a job on socially useful projects, such as the Community Programme supports.

We must reduce unemployment. It can be done if our policies are followed. We need the maximum number of people to support our Charter.

Please write to us enclosing a contribution to the campaign and we will send you our detailed argument 'We Can Cut Unemployment'.

We shall be holding meetings throughout the country and forming local groups. These will help in the expansion of the Community Programme by suggesting suitable employment projects in their localities.

We must persuade the Government to act. Please support the Charter.

Patrons: James Callaghan, Edward Heath, Lord Wilson.

Chairmen: Richard O'Brien (Trustees), Richard Layard (Executive Committee).

I support the Charter for Jobs and enclose £
Please send me 'We Can Cut Unemployment'
Charter for Jobs, FREEPOST (No stamp required),
London NW3 1YR.

Name _____
Address _____

CHARTER FOR

We can cut unemployment.

REG. OFFICE: FIVE ROSE ROAD LONDON NW3 4ST

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT
Camden Women's Unit
Women's Officer
Communications
(Job Share - Permanent Post)
£13,491 to £14,574 (inc.) p.a. pro-rata for 17½ hours per week and casual car user allowance.

This post will work with the existing job share in encouraging and supporting the growth and development of self-help projects for women, particularly black women.

The main emphasis of the job will be to ensure women have access to resources within the Council, through grant-aid, and ensure that women are provided with a knowledge of the Council's operations to enable them to push for changes in the Council's policies and practices. You will work closely with the Grants Unit in processing grant applications.

Women's Officer Housing

£13,491 to £14,574 (inc.) p.a.
To improve the impact on women of all aspects of the Council's housing policies and practices. This will include work on allocations policies; anti-harassment policies (both racial and sexual) and hostel provision. You will work closely with the Race Unit, the Housing Dept., community organisations and women affected by the policies.

Previous experience in any of the above housing fields is desirable.

The Women's Unit is a collective of 5 posts with specific areas of responsibility but with some shared and overlapping work.

For both posts, experience of working with black women (in either a voluntary or professional capacity) is essential. We positively encourage applications from the Afro-Caribbean and Asian communities.

A total commitment to Camden's Equal Opportunities Policy is essential.

Ref. No. 1A/355/G.

Legal Division

Are you a Solicitor Committed to Improving Housing Conditions in the Private Sector?

This is a vital post supporting the Council's interventionist Housing policy, and will involve working closely with tenants' groups, Law Centres, Council departments and other interested bodies dealing with Housing Act Notice Appeals, Compulsory Purchase Orders, harassment prosecutions and other matters pertaining to Private Sector Housing.

As Assistant Solicitor, you will be expected to display a substantial degree of self-motivation, commitment and awareness of the problems generated in the Private Housing Sector. Experience and ability in the field of advocacy and familiarity with Court procedures are desirable attributes, as is the ability to deal with colleagues and members of the public in an easy manner.

Salary: £12,507 to £14,574 p.a. (inc.). Ref. No. 1A/358/G.

Application form and further details from: Director of Social Services, Willing House, 356/364 Gray's Inn Road, WC1X 8BH, or telephone 01-837 5621 (Ansafone) quoting Ref. No. 1A/358/G. Closing date: 13th May, 1985.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Day Care Officer

£7,803 to £9,510 p.a. (inc.).
The Highgate Centre is in Kentish Town and complements other mental health resources in Camden facing a range of inner city problems. Our approach to community mental health is flexible and responsive and we address ourselves to a wide variety of psychological, emotional and social needs of people who are coping with both recovery from crisis and breakdown, and effects of social deprivation. We offer informal advice, group counselling, family work and general support.

You must be resourceful and imaginative with experience in creative therapies, and an interest in dynamic groupwork to complement a multi-disciplinary staff team of 8.

Individual work and working in a mental health setting an advantage.

You will be involved in the planning and running of all aspects of the Centre, including a small caseload and liaison with other agencies.

Camden is totally committed to its Equal Opportunities policies in service provision and employment. Members of ethnic minorities are under-represented in this work area in relation to Camden's population profile and applications from members of these groups will be particularly welcome to redress this imbalance.

Informal enquiries to Tony Creedon on 01-485 5783.

Application form from and to be returned to: Director of Social Services, Willing House, 356/364 Gray's Inn Road, WC1X 8BH, or telephone 01-837 5621 (Ansafone) quoting Ref. No. 1A/358/G. Closing date: 10th May, 1985.

GOVANHILL HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD
require an
AREA HOUSING OFFICER
£9,803 - £11,244 (pay award pending)

Govanhill Housing Association is a community-based Housing Association on the South side of Glasgow with 1200 in Management and a continuing development programme.

Our Housing Management Section has recently been reorganised and we require a Housing Officer to take full housing management responsibilities for approximately 200 houses.

The person we are looking for should have previous housing management experience and will be expected to participate in housing management initiatives and policy making.

Application Forms and Job description may be obtained from Govanhill Housing Association, Forsyth House, 151 Coplaw Street, Glasgow G42 and shall be returned to the Secretary no later than 17th May 1985.

Assistent Director of Education
£18,571 - £16,456

Applications are invited from well-qualified and suitably experienced men and women for this newly established post to assist in the implementation throughout Derbyshire of the Authority's policies for Education for All in a multi-cultural society. Previous experience in this field is desirable.

Essential car user allowance and removal/relocation/ lodging expenses available.

This post will be based at County Offices, Matlock. Application forms and further particulars are available from the Director of Education, County Offices, Matlock, Derbyshire DE64 3AG. Applications should be returned by 10th May, 1985.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

COMMUNITY CENTRE ORGANISER

required by The Harwood Community Centre to continue the running and expansion of the centre's activities. Must be experienced. Salary £9,100.725 p.a.

For a job description and application form send large s.a.e. to: Mrs. J. Clements, Harwood Community Centre, 1 Forge Place, Farnham Road, London NW1.

Closing date for completed applications: Friday, 17th May.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

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Closing date for completed applications: Friday, 17th May.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

(Maid Charity 247333)

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

for the Manchester Project. Alongside a national and furniture supplier, the Project provides personal transport for voluntary organisations and individuals in need, and co-ordinates inner city voluntary transport activity. The project is a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-racial and multi-lingual organisation. The project is a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-racial and multi-lingual organisation. The project is a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-racial and multi-lingual organisation.

Appointing salary made between Grade 5 & 7 (£2,644-£3,222). Applications (in form) including full C.V. and references, to: Paul Gough, Community Transport, 8 Cambridge Street, Manchester M1 3JY. Tel: 061-273 4941. Closing date: 10/5/85.

SOUTHALL MONITORING GROUP
requires
ADMINISTRATOR
(A knowledge of book-keeping desirable)
Salary £9,500.

WOMEN + POLICING WORKER
Salary £9,500

The project monitors policing and anti-racism work in the inner city. The project monitors policing and anti-racism work in the inner city. The project monitors policing and anti-racism work in the inner city. The project monitors policing and anti-racism work in the inner city.

CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE LONDON'S TRANSPORT
TWO WORKERS
CIL's Research and Resource Unit requires two workers to complete a team of four. The workers will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the unit. The workers will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the unit. The workers will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the unit.

BISTOL INCEST SURVIVORS
need 3rd worker (23½ hours/2 months). To facilitate self-help support groups, do education and liaison work, produce a magazine and counsel. Some relevant experience is required.
Salary: £3,800.
Closing date: 13th May.
Send s.a.e. for application form to: Bristol Incest Survivors, 20 St. James St., Bristol BS2 8AP.

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL DRAMATHERAPY SUMMER SCHOOL
15th-20th July inclusive.
Inquiries to: David Povey, College of Ripon & York St John, Lord Mayor's Walk, York YO1 1JZ.

GENERAL
CHAIRING CROSS AND WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SCHOOL
(University of London)
Part-time Assistant to Register Organiser
An Assistant is required to the Department of Community Medicine at the School's site in Hammersmith. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School.

THE LAW CENTRES FEDERATION
Seeks Maternity Locum Training Officer based in London
Hours to be arranged according to funding available. Minimum 17½ hours per week. To start ASAP. Applicants must have experience of organising public and meetings; knowledge of Law Centres useful. Tel: 01-837 5621 for further details. Closing date May 2, 1985. Interviews held on May 7, 1985.

MOTHER'S HELP/COOK
for women in wheelchairs, due to accident and now need a school, live in as family in Thames Ditton, spacious house, no smoking required. Tel: 01-398 8764.

HEALTH
NORTHAMPTON HEALTH AUTHORITY
An Equal Opportunities Employer
RESEARCH OFFICER
Salary Scale 9 - Commencing £3,744-£10,738

This officer will be based in the Information Services Division of the Department of Community Medicine and will work very closely with similar staff in the County Council Social Services Department on projects of joint interest to the two authorities.

A qualification including research methodology and experience in a research environment is essential. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School.

To Advertise in Public Appointments
Write or phone: The Guardian Classified Advertisement Department
119 Farringdon Road London EC1R 3ER
Tel: 01-278 2332

or
164 Deansgate Manchester M60 2RR
Tel: 061-832 7200
Ext. 2161

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

required by the Catholic Institute for International Relations. The Finance and Administration Officer co-ordinates a small department, servicing a programme of seventy volunteers in the Third World and a programme of educational work in Britain. The Finance Officer establishes and manages CIR's budgets and accounts and prepares financial reports for CIR members, donors and Government. Annual accounts exceed £1 million, and are partly computerised.

The post also carries responsibility for CIR's legal and charitable status, and for day-to-day management of office premises and equipment.

CIR provides information on social, economic and religious affairs in Latin America, Southern Africa and Asia, its overseas technical assistance programme is secular, and is a member of the British Voluntary Programme.

Salary: £9,000 p.a. + allowance for dependants (all under review for job 1st).

For a job description please write to the General Secretary, CIR, 22 Coleman Fields, London N7 7AF.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ISLE OF ELY NATURALISTS' TRUST LIMITED
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

To take responsibility for the development of all aspects of the membership of Cambiant, including education, interpretation and voluntary work, as well as the day-to-day organisation of Trust affairs. Conservation background essential. Five-day week with some evening and weekend work. Six weeks' holiday. Salary around £5,500. Starting as soon as possible.

Applications with C.V. and names of two referees by 24th May to the Chairman of Executive, Cambiant, 1 Brookside, Cambridge CB2 1JF.

HERE'S AN INTERESTING QUESTION FOR A NUMERATE PROBLEM SOLVER: WHEN DOES HALF A JOB EQUAL A JOB AND A HALF?

Answer: When it's in the Chief Executive's Department of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, where the Programme Unit needs a job sharing Co-ordinator who is numerate and matched by powers of persuasion and initiative.

The Unit's major responsibility is for the Council's Capital and Inner Area Programmes and your responsibilities would span the areas of forward planning, monitoring and reporting, project co-ordination and devising ways to overcome problems.

You would chair multi-disciplinary meetings, use project planning techniques and become closely involved with the development of the Computer systems that support the work of the Unit.

It's our belief that very few part-time jobs offer such valuable career experience or so many opportunities to help a forward looking Council make the most of its resources and its options. (Ref: C85P.5).

A salary up to £8,136 p.a. (SO.2) relates to 18 hours input per week.

For all the details, talk to Zoe Reed, Head of Unit on 01-748 3020 extension 243.

Closing date: 10 May 1985.

HOUSING Estates Manager (Fulham North)
PO.4 £14,574 - £15,606 inclusive

This third-tier post leads a team of staff responsible for managing over 4,000 dwellings in one of the four areas of the Inner City Borough and has membership of the Estates Management Divisional Management Team.

In particular you will foster a good landlord and tenant relationship; seek to reduce rent arrears and ensure compliance with other tenancy conditions; help develop meaningful tenant consultation through Tenant's Association; co-ordinate estates improvement programmes; administer public sector Housing Benefit.

You should be an experienced manager capable of managing in a climate of change and resource constraint and be committed to the provision of a high quality housing management service. You will have considerable relevant housing experience, be professionally qualified and looking for a challenging but rewarding job as a stepping stone to the top. (Ref: HMFM.1).

For an informal discussion please contact Alan Tennock, Assistant Director (Estates Management) on 01-748 3020 ext 510. Closing date: 10 May 1985.

Housing Benefit Assistant
Sc.4 £7,803 - £8,577 inclusive

We need a Housing Benefit Assistant for one of our area teams to deal with the full range of interviewing, assessment and advising functions for Council tenants. The work environment is highly pressured and you will have to be both committed and hard working to be able to deal sensitively and competently with the job's many demands. You must also have the ability to relate well to members of the public and although previous experience is an advantage it is not essential. (Ref: HMFM.23).

Closing date: 10 May 1985.

LEISURE AND RECREATION Temporary Playleaders

Full and part-time for the One O'clock Clubs, Adventure Playgrounds and Community Centres. Summer period between mid-July and the beginning of September.

You will be required to work with children of all ages on established play sites, organising activities which will include Play, Sports and Crafts.

The rate of pay will be approximately £12 for a 36-hour week (to include one weekend day) and £84 for a 20 hour week (Mon-Fri inclusive). (Ref: RTP.1).

Closing date: 17 May 1985.

Application forms and further particulars from PPO (Employment), London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, First Floor Extension, King Street, Hammersmith W6 5AL. Tel: 01-741 0804 - 24 hour answering service, quoting appropriate Ref. No.

Hammersmith & Fulham An Equal Opportunity Employer

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

DIVISIONAL DIRECTOR

WEST LOTHIAN DIVISION
£16,896 - £18,108

Applications are invited for this post which carries responsibility for all field social work services to the West Lothian Division and currently for the coordination of field services for the elderly throughout the Region.

The West Lothian Division is served by three area teams and offers an exciting opportunity to continue the development of services to a wide range of communities including an expanding new town and areas of high unemployment.

Applicants should hold a recognised social work qualification and have considerable line management experience.

Further information from Iain Paterson, Assistant Director (Field Services), Strathclyde House, 7 Struth Place, Edinburgh. Tel: 01-554 4301 Ext. 283.

Application forms from the Administrative Officer (Personnel), Strathclyde House, 7 Struth Place, Edinburgh. Tel: 01-554 4301 Ext. 333/334.

Closing date: 10th May, 1985.

SHARE
Strathclyde Housing Associations' Share Resources for Education

SHARE is a group formed to promote a new concept in training for Committee Members and staff of Housing Associations. The Group requires a:

TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR
to promote local training. The work will involve identifying training needs, designing suitable courses, schemes and materials, and ensuring active involvement in training. The post will be based in Glasgow.

Experience of education/training is essential and an understanding of the Housing Association movement would be an advantage.

Salary scale: NJC 37-43 £12,088-£13,335.25 days Annual Leave.

Write for further details to: The Secretary, SHARE, Elderspark Housing Association Ltd, 31 Garmouth Street, GLASGOW G51 3PZ

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

required by the Catholic Institute for International Relations. The Finance and Administration Officer co-ordinates a small department, servicing a programme of seventy volunteers in the Third World and a programme of educational work in Britain. The Finance Officer establishes and manages CIR's budgets and accounts and prepares financial reports for CIR members, donors and Government. Annual accounts exceed £1 million, and are partly computerised.

The post also carries responsibility for CIR's legal and charitable status, and for day-to-day management of office premises and equipment.

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Salary: £9,000 p.a. + allowance for dependants (all under review for job 1st).

For a job description please write to the General Secretary, CIR, 22 Coleman Fields, London N7 7AF.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ISLE OF ELY NATURALISTS' TRUST LIMITED
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

To take responsibility for the development of all aspects of the membership of Cambiant, including education, interpretation and voluntary work, as well as the day-to-day organisation of Trust affairs. Conservation background essential. Five-day week with some evening and weekend work. Six weeks' holiday. Salary around £5,500. Starting as soon as possible.

Applications with C.V. and names of two referees by 24th May to the Chairman of Executive, Cambiant, 1 Brookside, Cambridge CB2 1JF.

MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
THIRD OFFICER IN CHARGE

Grade 5 £2,262-£2,114 plus five increments on each point of the scale for qualifications £2,262-£2,114

Responsible at Oldwood Lodge, Longley Lane, Withenshawe, a home for 40 physically disabled adults.

The position at Oldwood Lodge requires a Third Officer in Charge who is a physically disabled person with a proven ability to lead and manage a team of staff in a residential setting, and be a qualified and experienced.

The Council is a member of the United Membership Agreement under which a person employed is required to become a member of a trade union.

Applications from the Personnel Section, P.O. Box 254, Town Hall Extension, Manchester M2 5AT. Tel: 061-224 3880/3887. Closing date: 13th May 1985.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

HEALTH
SOUTH WESTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
ASSISTANT REGIONAL INFORMATION SCIENTIST

Scale 14: £9,827-£11,946

Our Regional Statistics Department provides a comprehensive statistical and operational research support function on a wide variety of subjects. The Department within which this position is based, utilises SIRS micro-computers, and is linked to a regional ICL main-frame computer.

Within this new post you will act as Deputy to the Head of Department, taking principal responsibility for the Computing and Technical Statistics Sections. In the case of the latter, the function is being expanded in order to carry out research projects using statistical, computing and operational research skills.

In addition to a degree or equivalent qualification in Mathematics (including statistics and/or operational research), you must possess several years' relevant senior experience in the management services field.

Further information is available by telephoning Tony Kilburn on Bristol 0272 432271, ext. 945.

Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Employment Section, South Western Regional Health Authority, King Square House, 26/27 King Square, Bristol BS2 8EP.

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

RIVERSIDE HEALTH AUTHORITY
Community and Primary Care Unit (Victoria)
SENIOR HEALTH EDUCATION OFFICER

Six months fixed term appointment. Salary: Scale 5, £9,828 - £11,825 incl.

Applications are invited from experienced Health Education Officers, who are interested in developing and managing a health education team in a primary care setting. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School. The post involves working on the computerised Medical Register for the School.

For an informal discussion, please contact Nicky Tynan, Acting District Health Education Officer, 01-531 5492.

Please send curriculum vitae to Kim Taylor, 1-5 Dorset Street, London SW1. Closing date: May 8, 1985.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES
LIVERPOOL COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
INFORMATION DEVELOPMENT WORKER

To join our well established information service. Special responsibilities will be to identify issues of concern to the voluntary sector and promote knowledge and discussion about them, and to increase our information resources and provide advice to voluntary organisations on their employment responsibilities and other staff, producing publications, organising conferences, disseminating information and contributing to the monthly newsletter.

Salary in accordance with age, experience and qualifications on scale 4-5, £6,535-£8,535. For information and application form contact Liverpool CVS, 14 Castle Street, Liverpool L2 9DN. Tel: 01-551-235 7728. Closing date Monday, May 27, 1985.

LCVS jobs are open to all, regardless of sex, race or disability.

GENERAL
BRADFORD COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
HEALTH & WELFARE OFFICER
£2,262-£2,114.107 p.a.

Bradford needs someone to join a team of experienced Community Relations Officers who:-

- is mature and confident with plenty of energy
- has a keen interest in promoting equal opportunity and good race relations in the fields of Health, Social Services and Welfare Rights.
- has experience in working with ethnic minority communities together with an understanding of the problems of race
- can speak at least one South Asian language, with a knowledge of the other major Asian languages.

Whilst employed by Bradford Council, but based at the Community Relations Council, you will be expected to develop and manage links with all statutory and voluntary agencies with a view to developing social action projects.

You should be a good written and oral communicator and have experience of general health issues would be an advantage. A residential driving licence would be an advantage.

For an informal chat about the job contact Tim Whitfield on 0161 421 9259.

If you think you meet the criteria, application forms are available from the Personnel Section, Bradford Council, First Floor, City Hall, Bradford BD1 1BY. Tel: 0161 421 7230.

COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS
The national volunteer agency
INDEPENDENT LIVING SCHEME
- 21 hours per week
WARRINGTON OR MANCHESTER

CSV needs a part-time worker (21 hours per week) for its Independent Living Scheme which places full-time volunteers with individuals or families to help in order to live independently in the community.

The person appointed will be expected to negotiate at all levels with statutory and voluntary agencies, as well as work with young volunteers, and physically disabled people. Imagination, determination and reliability essential. Administrative competence vital, plus a commitment to volunteering and community-based care. The first six weeks will be training and induction in London.

Salary: NJC Scale 3 £3,828 p.a. (21-hour week). Closing date 8th May.

For details and application form please write to Susan Heywood, Executive Officer, CSV, 237 Pentonville Road, London N1 9NJ.

WELFARE BENEFITS OFFICER

The Parkinson's Disease Society's Welfare team need an Officer with innovative ideas and an enthusiastic, positive approach to benefit take-up. Broad experience of Welfare Rights is essential with specific knowledge of Disability and Supplementary Benefits. Tribunal Advocacy involved. Commencing salary between £9,500 and £9,900 p.a., according to experience. For informal discussion, application forms, and job description, contact urgently:

Mrs Mary Baker, Welfare Director
PARKINSON'S DISEASE SOCIETY
36 Portland Place, London, W1N 4DG

SOCIAL WORK

RESIDENTIAL SOCIAL WORKER

(CASE WORKER)

At Basle Court Reception Centre for Refugees.

Sensitivity to needs of refugees and experience of residential or field social work and/or direct work with refugees required.

Social work / Counselling qualification and ability to liaise with statutory bodies, especially housing and DHSS helpful.

Applications especially welcome from minority groups and refugees.

Ring 01-671 4481 or write to L. Moodley, Basle Court, 2b Fairmount Road, London SW2, for details and application forms.

Salary (under review) not less than £8,312.

Closing date May 10, 1985.

BRITISH REFUGEES COUNCIL

MANCHESTER CITY C

Three aspects of feminism in the Muslim world: Women in different countries describe their experience of Islam

TELEVISION teams visiting families usually make a point of filming at least one hard pressed nurse from Carshalton or Chicago and brush aside local volunteers like Nawal Hassan Osman. Which is a pity, since Nawal and her sisters across Africa and Asia — in spite of a lack of Western qualifications — are often getting far more done for the simple reason that they know the people, their needs and speak the language.

Nawal got involved in the international relief business by accident three months ago. She had returned from Alexandria University in Egypt and found thousands of destitute people from Chad border areas camped outside her home town of Nyala in western Sudan.

She is honest enough to admit to a mixture of motives: "I obviously wanted to do something for the people but my social studies degree includes anthropology, sociology, and psychology and the camp contains 17 tribal groups widely scattered areas, so it was also a chance to study."

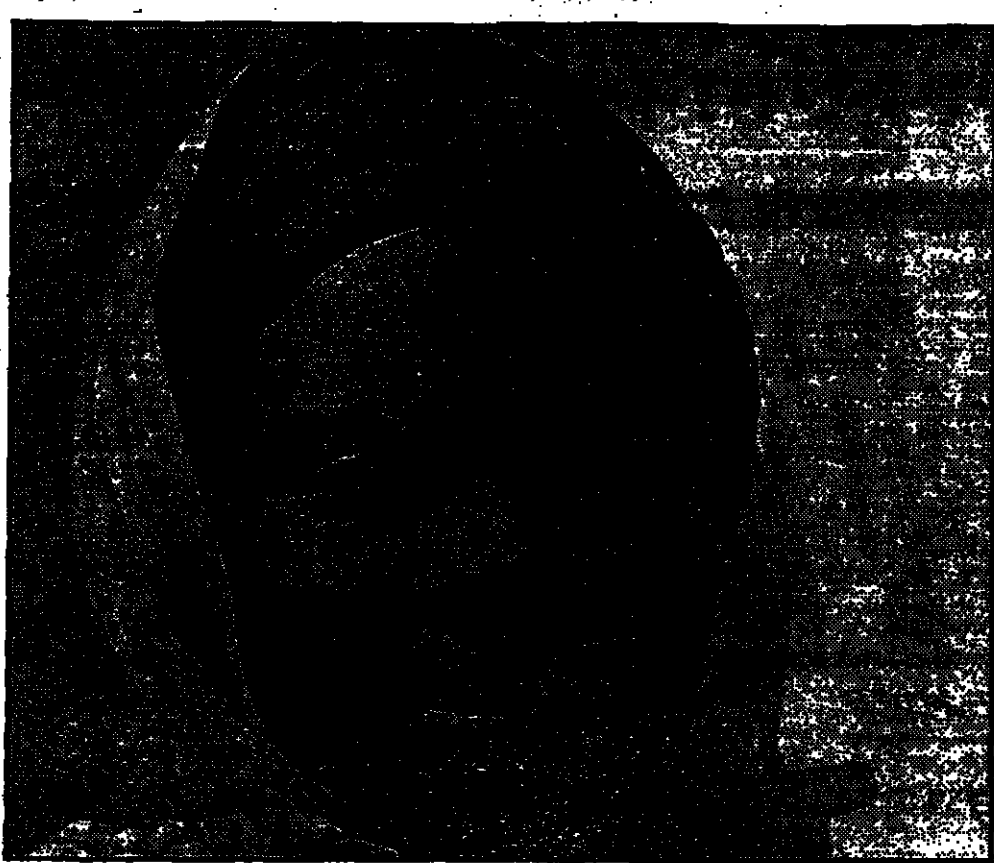
Nawal is no rich kid indulging an idle interest. She is 22 and is paying her way through college. Her father is a carpenter making just enough money to raise 13 daughters and three sons from his two marriages.

Nawal works 12-hour days, seven days a week, pleading with local traders and the town council for food, interviewing new arrivals in the camp and arguing with the tough sheikhs of each tribe about numbers and needs. There are up to 17,000 people in the camp, a small part of the hungry army, one million strong on the move in western Sudan. Village after village further north has been abandoned following a succession of poor harvests, culminating in last year's almost nil rainfall.

Nawal said: "It was very upsetting at first. People were getting very weak because there wasn't enough food, and there was a lot of disease. About 12 people were dying every day. It was strange that no one had any energy to make any noise, so the camp was almost completely quiet."

"Now we've got more food, the children have started to play, and the women walk about 15kms to find wood, which they sell so they can buy things in the market."

A large American operation supplies food for western Sudan and when Save the Children staff arrived in Nyala to start a distribution network they hired Nawal on the spot. "She is astonishing," said one Save the Children official. "All these



NAWAL HASSAN OSMAN:
She has the sheikhs eating out of her hand

sheikhs are hard men, used to getting their own way and about twice Nawal's size but she had them eating out of her hand."

Nawal will continue to work in the camp and help with food distribution in Nyala town until her new term begins. Her salary — high by local standards but poor when compared with the expatriates — will help with her fees and living costs but she will still have to think of some money-making ideas.

"I usually buy dried meat in Nyala and sell it in Khartoum and then take tea or gold jewellery to Cairo on the train. My latest idea is monkeys — Egyptians are always asking about them, so I might get some trapped round here and sell them as pets."

Simply by having an education, let alone making the 10-day journey by herself to study abroad, Nawal earns the disapproval of many in this Islamic country. It is noticeable that her actions and dress — hair completely

covered, and enveloped in a sarri-like sweeping "robe" — are models of correct behaviour.

"Some people say it is shameful for me to work and to study abroad, but I take no notice," she has strong support from her father, who is obviously proud of his daughter. Asked why he takes such a liberal attitude, he replied through an interpreter that the Koran says down that women should have equality in education.

Nawal is one of the new Sudanese women, making their presence felt. "Four years ago hardly any girls from here ever studied outside Nyala, now there are 12 Nyala girls at university in Egypt."

Her education is bringing a questioning attitude about Islam and far higher expectations than her parents. Nawal's father married her mother when he was 16 and she was 11. Nawal says at 22 she is not yet ready for marriage, but will make her

own choice when the time comes.

"After finishing my studies I will try to find a sensible man. The Sudanese men usually treat women badly, far too much like a master and servant. I want to find someone who will be a friend, someone I can share my life and my thoughts with."

Nick Cater

ZOE HERSOV felt seizes. For once her steel white hair, which has been with her since her twenties, was an added advantage as she wandered around Lahore in Pakistan.

"It was a wonderful feeling — you are somehow aware that the elderly woman is respected and that age, generally, is respectable. That brings a great sense of security, a feeling of being almost settled," said Zoe Hersov, who is in her fifties. "While in the West the Joan Collinses of this world are in business to stay and look young, middle-aged women in Muslim soci-



ZOE HERSOV:
A veil is not a cause of oppression or inferiority

ety really do come into their own. They have a position of stature and can relax with their families around them."

She was recently in Lahore on a one week visit lecturing at the all girls Kinnear College and the university. She was also visiting senior officials in her capacity as "careers adviser" to Muslim women. This was the first field trip since she was co-opted last year on to the Commission for Women and Work in Asia.

After a history degree at Vassar then a fellowship at the Sorbonne, Zoe Hersov embarked rather late in life, on a theology degree at King's College, specialising in Islamic studies.

She is not a Muslim but believes that Islam as a religion and way of life is often unfairly and deliberately misinterpreted by the West. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the West's perception of the position of women — where the veil for example, is symbolically seen as a symbol that

women are still chattels. And, unfortunately, most Western attempts to look at or "liberate" their Muslim sisters have often, in all sincerity, held little relevance.

"What I have found, and again in Lahore, is that most educated Muslim women want emancipation within Islam — not from Islam. Islam is generally not seen by them as a cause of oppression," said Zoe Hersov.

"Their main concern is with the welfare of women, such as clear legal rights, being partners in marriage, economic rights, such as the right to inheritance, to control their own property as they want. Over the years Koranic laws and modes of conduct have become distorted, changed and manipulated by local custom and, of course, misused by men to rule women. All texts can be taken out of context — look no further than the Bible."

Two issues are fundamental in understanding women's complex role within

Islam. "In spite of the diversity of life throughout the Muslim world there is an essential unity created by the sharia law as set out in the Koran — this must not be underestimated. The other is that everything must be seen within the context of family life, remember that not being married is not really even considered an option."

"The veil, for example, is not a manifestation or cause of oppression or inferiority. It has been used — as in Iran — as a militant affirmation of all that was wrong with imperialism but the West has grabbed it as a sign of male oppression."

"If the West takes the view — free women from the veil — this is emancipation of the very worst sort," she adds. "What they are working towards today is not the mechanical equality of the West since women, educated women, are not in strict competition with men. In a sense the traditional restrictions of local tradition, and Islam,

have opened up tremendous opportunities for women who are now going through to the very top, highest level of their professions."

Because of social customs dictating that women should not work in the public arena they tend not to go into office work, sales and marketing, secretarial or clerical work.

There is actually a very interesting facet because it means women are pushing for and going into professions rather than the lower paid more utility kind of work in offices. It could be said that women in the UK, and the West generally, were only taken in to the mass workplace because they were a cheap supply of easy labour and so have been forced into largely boring and unproductive jobs."

At the upper social end of most Muslim societies it would still be quite out of the question for young girls to go into jobs other than the professions such as law, medicine, architecture. "It is also easier for these girls to work than many families in the West because of the extended family which provides a network of great strength for any children. There are obviously still great handicaps for the lower classes but education is beginning to filter through at all levels."

She does admit that many educated Muslim girls and young women face tremendous problems when confronted with the more traditional parents. Many are far more concerned about an arranged marriage — or just marriage — than a sparkling career. One of the biggest problems occurs when women do go through a rigorous education only to be married off as quickly as possible.

Educating women to higher levels is also a direct incentive to keep down birth rates since the correlation between education and fertility is very strong. "Imported birth control is seen as offensive and presumptuous but the growing numbers of working women will lead to a natural decline in the birth rates. Governments are realising this fast and are taking positive steps to improve their education programmes."

There is an arrogant assumption in the West that our view of equality is the best, says Zoe Hersov. "There are still powerful conflicts between the generations and many women do still live under conditions we would consider oppressive. But I believe we have a great deal to learn from their approach and experience."

Margareta Pagano

DR RASHA AL-SABAH: At a time of change, Kuwait needs to hear its women

KUWAIT'S New National Assembly was elected in February this year by 56,000 male literate Kuwaiti voters. The assembly was just one day old when it was handed a petition calling for the right for Kuwaiti women to vote. The unusual thing about this petition was that it was signed not by women but by professional men — engineers, pilots, lawyers, doctors.

"They know the role we're already playing in Kuwait," said Dr Rasha al-Sabah. She comes from one ruling al-

Sabah family and is dean of languages at Kuwait University as well as being a leading women's rights activist.

The struggle to get the vote often hides how much wealth, education and better educated Kuwaiti women — such as Dr Rasha — have achieved without it. They are energetic, elegant and busy, the most emancipated women in the Gulf. These women have for generations participated in the trading activities of the community. It's no surprise to find them running banks and

companies, newspapers and legal practices, prominent in education, medicine and journalism.

But it is among the lower paid groups of Kuwaiti women where activists feel the vote is most needed. Nowadays, there are as many girls as boys in Kuwait's schools and girls outnumber boys at the university.

"They educate us," says Mrs Badria al-Sabah, who heads the women's section of the Kuwait Trade Union Federation. "Now they

should use us." Mrs al-Sabah is a civil servant and reckons she represents the hardest working group of Kuwaiti women, in the less well paid ranks of the civil service.

"We need the vote because we need better pay," explained Mrs al-Sabah. "We need universities for our children, proper maternity leave, equal pay and opportunities, and our own social allowances."

Opposition to the enfranchisement of women lies in the Muslim fundamentalist move-

ment. This takes many forms in the Muslim world and Islam itself is often one of the less important ingredients. Conservatism, nostalgia for the old days which were invariably good, and antipathy towards the dependence on foreign luxuries that characterises much modern Arab society are other factors.

Women, who are still treated as inferior in the Gulf, are regarded as the embodiment of tradition and there are women of all ages who would like to leave it at that.

"After all," said a headscarved student, "the respect is more than you have in the West, however much you vote."

Not all women want the vote. Some feel that women would only vote for men even more conservative than themselves — "we might end up with a man who is even more conservative than we are," said one civil servant who feels she is well off as she is. Muqablat are the girls who have in the last few years taken to wearing the hijab, the tight headscarf that to the West often signifies

extreme fundamentalism.

To the girls who wear it, conspicuous in the university, it is their way of stressing their individualism. "We're not just sex symbols in the latest Paris fashions," said one, who saw no frustration in the fundamentalist campaign. "Foreigners have run things here for too long."

Dr Rasha al-Sabah has no intention of wearing Muslim dress. "I consider myself as devout a Muslim as anyone but I also believe in freedom and tolerance," she said. She

argues that Muslim fundamentalism is undermining the mutual respect between teacher and pupil and puts too much emphasis on external. She is optimistic that the mood may be changing on and off the campus. "The great danger of fundamentalism is its tendency to depreciate the value of half the population just when we need them. Kuwait needs to hear its women."

Sarah Searight

Restore youthful appearance to the face without surgery



Linda Blandford

THROUGH our hotel window in Bologna, we looked out to a large, ochre-coloured block of flats. We arrived in Italy during the afternoon and this building seemed to have every shutter tightly closed. There was that sense of bone-deep fatigue that comes with flying and arriving somewhere unfamiliar.

But as the afternoon light flattened out, the shutters slowly went up, clanging and heaving. Windows were thrown open; curtains drawn back. There before us was the rich and busy life of a score of provincial living rooms, heavy and ornate, slowly waking. In the Italian districts of old, together and alike, were getting ready for the second half of the day. It was the effect of being at 20 theatres at once — and on each stage, the vivid and bustling characters sprang to life as we watched with fascination.

Forgetting for a second the tall ceilings, the dark and solid furniture, the brightly coloured birds in cages, the detail of each settled family home, it was still the sensation of looking through windows in the Italian districts of New York. The faces, the expressions, the gestures and movement: an ocean away and there was still this striking resemblance. It had just come from Germany: no similarity there walking the streets at night,

peeking through the lightened windows. We looked in vain for the unknown cousins and uncles of those who came to America. The break was total. Something happens in a generation in the new world: accents, body language, faces and smoothies out. The blonde Poles take on the clipped, gaberdiene character of the old WASPs; the Irish spread like butter becoming Jewishly hearty. The mystery and magic of mountain peoples disappear; the terrible melancholy of the wastelands lives on only in the repertoire of black and grim jokes. The melting pot is not misnamed.

Yet it is not that way with Italians: something so strong survives that even here in this dull, sidestreets in Bologna, the recognition was immediate. Why do the others so quickly doff the bland and anonymous American camouflage? For many it must be the simple knowledge that there is no going back. Their worlds have

vanished, their lands are ruled by others, borders and walls forbid their return. But that alone does not explain it all. New York is full of Italians who left on crowded boats 30, 40 years ago and have talked ever since of returning — while often never setting foot there again. Still, however, their country before this lives on in their children.

On Broadway, up at 90th Street, two Italian brothers run a tiny, stand-up pizza shop: Sal's. It is, of course, famous in its shabby way and in the interminable arguments about whether Ray's Original Pizzas, now \$1.19 a slice, are worth queuing for (the queues are there always), and whether "Tom's" isn't always as good — someone always wins the greatness to be found at Sal's.

The two brothers have stood and whirled dough, spread tomato and cheese in this narrow store for half a lifetime. To those with a minute to spare, they talk of Italy and

of the day they will go back to visit their village and relatives. It cannot be money that holds them back; they just do not go.

Of course, in some way, it is the food that has kept Italy so alive in New York. There are many who can (and do) endlessly talk over dinner about the right day to buy fresh Mozzarella at Balducci's, the figs at that shop near Carrara's, the impossibility of finding exactly aged parmesan.

Whatever the reasons, there is a love, a feeling of relish about all things Italian — and it is not only in New York, not a Main Street in America that does not embrace its Italian weeks in storefronts and fashion shows. The street-wise Italian — de Niro, Stallone — is still the male ideal. Armani's store on Madison Avenue — his label anywhere else — still sums up the image of elegance, relaxed and unutterably expensive.

And so perhaps it should

have been no surprise that right to the intense, hazy crowd at the Bologna Festival Musica '85, "I grandi interpreti."

Where could they be going these Italian Joan Collinses? All those double-breasted men in soft, exclusive fabrics and softer shoes. Indeed, it was as if Madison Avenue's view of Italy was promanaging here stiffly and in complete awareness of some imaginary camera. All these heads held high, these faces full of life and complicated humour — each line, each curling smile, how dearly America would love to look like this. And how dearly the Italians will pay for this popularity when the schools break up in June and thousands of jumbo jets take flight from Kennedy Airport bringing the Berlit veterans from New York with their rich dollars and heavy guide books. Last year Beijing: this year Bologna.

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Msprint

HAVING a bit of trouble with your Dependency Block? Need some fine tuning on your specific assertiveness? Try a couple of manuals to help pinpoint the faults and get your career ticking over nicely. Reach For The Top by Marilyn Davidson (Pitkin) and Strategies For Women At Work by Janice LaRouche and Regina Ryan will, for \$3.95 each, give you a wealth of technical advice.

Both manuals take a pragmatic approach to the problems and barriers that prevent women getting the most out of their careers. The writers aren't out to change the rules of the road but they might just help you get in the fast lane.

So there you are all sorted out cruising along just nicely, your promotional drive smooth and steady and the problem with knocking when you go over thirty sorted out and what happens? New tech-

nology is what happens and if you're not careful you find you're in an obsolete model. Smothered by Innovation edited by Wendy Faulkner and Erik Arnold (Pinto \$7.95) makes it pretty clear how we are losing out at work to the microchip. Women are concentrated at the bottom of the computer hierarchy and losing jobs and skills to word processors and micro-electronics. Technology is also losing out, as the authors make clear. If more women were involved in its design and control, technology would be a "less alienating, more socially beneficial and, perhaps, even liberating force."

The majority of working

women don't run to anything as sleek and glossy as a career. Women's Working Lives by Susan Yeandle (Tavistock Publications, \$7.95) is a longitudinal study of 64 Kenish women. Yeandle takes a detailed view of her subjects, examining their domestic and wage labour and the various strategies they employ to scratch up living. Long quotes from the women and detailed accounts of some of their lives have been used adding interest to a well researched thesis.

There are a lot of myths about women and crime — Criminal Women edited by Pat Carlen (Polity Press \$4.95) should explode a few of them. The four women whose

accounts make up the book are intelligent and articulate. They were once professional criminals (two of them very successful) all four have spent long periods in prison and all four are now going straight. Female offenders are seen as doubly guilty — they offend against society and they offend against society's image of women.

They are doubly punished, expected to behave in a docile and "feminine" manner when imprisoned, they are beaten up and drugged when they don't. Behaviour considered normal in a male prisoner is abnormal in a female prisoner: fear of death, madness or the "muppet" wing three women prisoners to adopt survival tactics which are in themselves destructive. One of the contributors, Josie, having survived prison by "living the image of the big tough criminal has managed to drop her act by telling herself "Turn it off. That comes from prison." A considerable feat after the experiences she's had.

Susan Jeffreys

BABY By Michael Heath



Understanding
GLAUCOMA

During National Glaucoma Week, Caroline Shreeve describes the clinical features and treatment of this condition which can cause blindness. Barbara Stilwell, Britain's first Nurse Practitioner, reports from America on this concept of nursing. And don't miss our \$1,000 Quiz — answers to be found in recent issues of Nursing Mirror!

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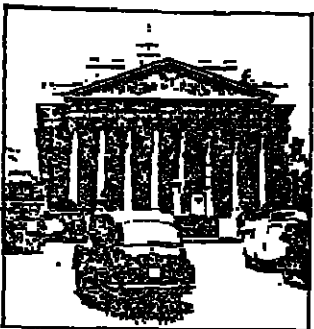
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It's no holiday for the tour operators, who will just have to work harder



NOTEBOOK

Edited by
Hamish McRae

IT MIGHT seem a bit early in the season for it, but already the heat, so to speak, is on the tour companies.

The problem is essentially one of overcapacity. GUS, with all its enormous finan-

cial resources, took the view that it could not earn a reasonable return from Global and did the obvious thing — which was to sell to the strongest competitor, Intasun.

But why is there overcapacity and why are holiday bookings dramatically down this year? The central point is that the travel business is going through much the same process as other consumer-oriented industries — it is becoming more specialist and more up-market. People want real holidays, not the mass-produced two weeks on the Costa del Whist and mind you don't get mugged.

It is interesting to see how Intasun, which five years ago was overwhelmed by a mass-market operation, has been moving into things like skiing holidays since then. Tour operators now offer a much wider range of destinations, various activity holiday packages, and holidays tailored to individual preferences.

Looking ahead, there are two big questions facing the industry. The more immediate is whether the low level of advance bookings is an early warning sign of a squeeze of consumer spending which would mean fewer things for which there is an elastic demand, like holidays. Low early bookings may in part be the result of our growing financial sophistication — why lend money at no interest to a tour company by paying early when you can pick up wonderful deals by booking late? But they may signify something more sinister.

The longer-term question is whether it can develop new products to replace the two weeks on a beach by the Med which has fuelled its growth through the last 15 years. One of the two big components of the tour operators' cost advantage, the cheap charter flight, can be picked up by the individual. Cheap hotel rates are being eaten into by things like villa rentals.

The further advantage, that everything is done for the holidaymaker, is becoming less attractive for many segments of the market. People may come to prefer to do it themselves.

Holidays, like the rest of the leisure industry, ought still to be a growth market. But that is not going to help the weakest competitors this year. Expect, come the summer, the stories about people being stranded at airports as their tour operator goes belly-up.

Late show

AN INFLUENTIAL Edinburgh banker remarked this week that the trouble with the TSB Scotland was that the management spent so much of the last few years of reorganisation fighting each other for jobs that they lost sight of the Scottish political dimension. This is why independence for TSB Scotland

has surfaced so surprisingly late in the process through the House of Lords of the bill to float the whole TSB group on the stock market.

As an independent bank with £120 million of capital the TSB in Scotland would be comparable with Clydesdale, the Midland subsidiary, with more accounts but fewer deposits, because its customers are less prosperous. It could survive, given first rate management, and the Edinburgh banker saw it as quite a threat because so many young Scots open their first bank accounts with the TSB before moving on to other banks.

Whether it should now be separated out from the TSB group is an extremely difficult question to answer, not because it would be technically impossible but because the local management is apparently fully committed to being part of a much larger group. They are backed by the main union, BIFFO, and unscrupling it all at this

stage would be awkward. If they had thought of it three years ago.

The other issue is the ownership of the TSB group as a whole. Because it never had any clear legal ownership the Government was able to choose the option of converting it to a public company rather than to a mutual society owned by depositors.

The House of Lords has put in amendments to the bill to float the TSB which in effect put large chunks of shares into trust, either for charities — an idea accepted by the TSB — or for the benefit of depositors and staff, which both the TSB and the government reject.

Neither of these really tackles the root of the problem, which is that with hindsight a move to mutual status might actually have been the more daring and innovative, because it would have given an opportunity to develop a form of mutual ownership more responsive to the owners than the present

oligopolies which run building societies and insurance companies.

Export cover

A RATHER clever new finance house is being launched today with over £100 million of funds to provide backing for exporters using the ECGD system.

The idea is really an application of the technique of factoring to export finance. Up to now an exporter can get 90 per cent of the proceeds of an export order guaranteed by the ECGD, which is fine. But it has to collect the money, run an overdraft until the funds are received, transfer them to sterling, arrange currency cover and so on.

The new firm, called the Export Finance Company Ltd, and owned by Electra Investment Trust, Legal and General, Arab Banking Corporation, and First Pacific

Holdings, puts all this together. It pays the company the sterling value of an export order, the moment the goods are shipped, providing the order has been insured under the short-term ECGD scheme, allowing the company to forget about the whole problems of payment, and currency conversion. It gets a profit out of charging interest at roughly overdraft rate to the company, based on the average delay the company used to meet in getting its bills paid.

So the whole scheme employs the fact that ECGD-guaranteed export orders are absolutely solid assets to offer a form of finance to exporters which, in theory at least, ought to cost no more than an overdraft.

The innovation brings two important British financial institutions more into competition with the traditional banks. If it catches on it could be the start of something big.

Troubled group's UK lenders agree to provide special standby facility

Banks stay with Burnett and Hallamshire

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Burnett and Hallamshire, the troubled opencast mining and processing group, has secured continued backing from its bankers while it battles to come to grips with the heavy burden of borrowings that have been weighing down the business.

The Burnett and Hallamshire chairman Mr Eric Grayson disclosed yesterday that the group's UK lending banks have agreed to provide a special standby facility and are keeping existing facilities in place "on an interim basis" while a detailed financial and business review of B and H's worldwide operations is carried out.

Under the planned wide-ranging rationalisation B and H is now proposing a total withdrawal from its costly involvement in the property development business in California where some estimates put the group's investment at around \$100 million — and a cutback in exposure to the hard pressed US coal mining industry.

As a first step towards reorganising its operations the group has reached agreement to dispose of the UK Petroleum Products company to Powell Duffryn for £10.3 million in cash. Proceeds of the sale will be used to reduce the stock market where B and H shares fell a further 5p to 50p

the £66 million reported at the group's March 1984 balance sheet date under the combined pressures presented by the year long miners strike, the strength of the dollar and the heavy cost of financing six office developments in California.

Mr Grayson said yesterday that the agreement with B and H's bankers and the UK Petroleum Products disposal "relieve a lot of pressure" on the group. "We have got a considerable cushion now," he added.

But the twin announcements did not entirely reassure the stock market where B and H shares fell a further 5p to 50p

each on concern about what results for the past financial year will eventually reveal. Earlier this year the shares stood at 190p and only two years ago, before profits suffered dramatic collapse, they were changing hands for as much as £4 each.

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Bosses' wages beat inflation

By Michael Smith

EARNINGS of management and directors at British industrial companies are climbing at twice the rate of inflation and out-pacing the pay rises being awarded to shop-floor workers.

According to an authoritative nationwide survey for the British Institute of Management, earnings for managers and directors climbed by 10.6 per cent in 1984 and look set to rise by a further 10 per cent this year.

The big advance in higher wage earners' pay may prove embarrassing to the Government which has become increasingly strident in its calls for pay restraint on the shop-floor. Inflationary implications will also cause concern.

The BIM figures also follow some spectacular recent pay-rises for Britain's highest-paid directors which have also underlined the contradictions of the current pay round.

However the Government yesterday leapt to the defence of big pay rises given to company directors when Lord Young, the Minister without Portfolio, said: "Unless we get men of proven ability and talent at the head of our enterprises, we will not get the employment we sorely need."

Speaking in the Lords, he said it was for companies, not the Government, to decide what pay level was right.

However, Labour's Lord Stoddart attacked moves by ICI to raise the pay of its chairman, John Harvey-Jones by 66 per cent to £237,000 a year when ordinary employees were being harangued by the Government to expect low wage increases to save jobs.

The BIM figures confirm that management in industry and commerce are enjoying bigger pay rises than average employees.

After adjusting for tax and inflation, the pay of management grew in real terms by 5.1 per cent in 1984 compared with real advances of only 2.3 per cent for average employees.

The rapid rise in the pay of management and directors reflects the rising trend of stock prices in 1984, and the expected upturn for 1985. In addition management is increasingly being rewarded with performance bonuses to supplement their pay.

Speaking for the BIM, Roy Close explained: "For the first time in many years managers' net real pay has improved at a rate faster than did national earnings. To a large extent this reflects the increased profitability of companies."

TSB to unveil safeguards for Scots offshoot

By Peter Rodgers

TSB chairman Sir John Read will this morning propose new safeguards for the management autonomy of the group's Scottish subsidiary, aimed at breaking the House of Lords deadlock over the bill to float the whole group on the stock market. He is expected to involve Scottish institutions in preserving the Scottish nature and management of the bank, through its local board.

But he will strongly resist proposals to separate out the Scottish TSB from the main group during the flotation, either with a 49 per cent minority local ownership or with its own independent sale on the stock market.

The "49 per cent" solution is also rejected as irrelevant by the peers such as Lord Taylor of Gryfe who are leading the campaign to preserve the independence of TSB Scotland. But there is still pressure for a complete separation from the TSB group which Sir John is resisting, backed by the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union, both nationally and locally.

Lord Taylor was responsible for an amendment which excluded the Scottish TSB from the legislation. The government subsequently asked Sir John to find a way of satisfying the objections of the Scottish peers because it is unwilling to steamroller the bill through in its present form. Sir John has to find a compromise in time to get the bill through this session.

Sir John said yesterday: "We are going to put proposals to Lord Taylor and his colleagues which we hope are going to satisfy him on some of the fears he has raised, with a view to ensuring the continuation of TSB Scotland with its own board as an independently run company in the TSB group."

If the Lords refuse to compromise, this could leave little alternative to a separate sale of the TSB Scotland, which with £120 million capital represents 15 per cent of the TSB group. Sir John maintains that it would not be strong enough to survive on its own. It would not be able to continue using the TSB name, logo and designs and would have to set up its own offices at present run by the group.

The TSB has however agreed with the Government to offer a compromise on another Lords amendment from Labour which said that 10 per cent of the shares should be kept in trust for working people. It will not put a specific figure or a reference to working people but the TSB does accept the principle, which is already enshrined in its promise to set aside shares for the benefit of charities.

Another amendment giving power to vary the price at which shares are offered to various categories of buyers has been accepted, but an SDE proposal to put 25 per cent of the shares in trust for depositors and staff is being resisted.

Dollar gains as Reagan dismisses tax reforms

By Margaret Pagano

The dollar pushed ahead more than two cents against the pound in late trading yesterday on market hopes that US interest rates will stay high following President Reagan's rejection of any tax reform.

Mr Reagan told a Washington conference that any "so-called" tax reforms — tax increases in disguise — could be ruled out. This reinforced prospects that interest rates will continue at present levels to support the huge budget deficit unless consumer spending is brought under control.

After tumbling in the afternoon — with the release of the March durable goods orders, which showed a 2.3 per cent increase rather than the forecast 0.5 per cent rise — the dollar firmed up to close against sterling at \$1.2540. It closed at 3.0690 against the German mark. The pound had been trading as high as \$1.2820 but fell at one point by over three cents. The effective index came back to close at 78.8 against 79.3. The pound was almost unchanged against the DM at 3.8526.

Officials in Washington were quick to insist that the sharp increase in the American consumer price index during March was a temporary hiccup rather than a further sign of economic fragility pointing to a return to higher inflation.

Largely because of a sharp turnaround in petrol prices, which had been falling, the index rose 0.5 per cent in March, the worst month for more than a year, and the equivalent of an annual rate of 5.8 per cent inflation. After a year's moratorium, medical fees rose as did new and second hand car prices. But food stabilised after the effects of the cold winter on production, as did electricity prices. Labour Department officials stressed that the index, which rose 3.7 per cent last year, had risen sharply "but it's not that unusual. We do not expect to change in 1985 around that much," said one departmental economist. Over the past several years the US has not been running at a rate not expected to change despite yesterday's figures.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Renault retreats

FRENCH state-owned car maker Renault, until recently Europe's leading car seller, yesterday announced a 12.55 billion franc (£1.7 billion) net loss for 1984. This is eight times the 1983 loss of 1.58 billion francs. In an immediate reaction, the finance minister, Pierre Bergevoet, said on television the state would do its duty as the only shareholder in Renault, which has been at the heart of a recent debate about the future of French nationalised industry.

But he added: "It is up to the firm itself... to take the measures necessary for a turnaround in its accounts."

JAGUAR Cars and Coventry police confirmed yesterday that a report is now being prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions which could lead to charges of corruption being brought against Jaguar employees and staff of a number of components suppliers.

THE level of consumer spending in the first quarter of 1985 was exactly the same as in the preceding quarter, based on 1980 prices, the Government said yesterday with a fall in expenditure on food balanced by increased spending in other areas, particularly on energy consumption.

ONE IN three businessmen believe that the number of people in employment in Britain is likely to increase as a result of the budget, a survey by the Institute of Directors has revealed, but pessimistically only one in 10 of the businessmen interviewed anticipated that their own firms would take on extra workers because of the budget.

Opec beats output ceiling

By John Hooper

OPEC's output is now running at substantially more than its self-imposed ceiling, the authoritative Middle East Economic Survey said yesterday. The newsletter put the current level of production at 18.4 million barrels a day — 400,000 over the limit.

The report comes just as demand is weakening in the industrial nations of the northern hemisphere because of milder weather, and — if true — it could signal another slide in the price. Ominously, from OPEC's standpoint, Egypt yesterday announced a cut in the price of its crude.

Estimates vary of the amount of crude that will be needed from Opec during the second quarter of this year. MEES put demand at between 15.5 and 15.8 million barrels a day. The International Energy Agency in its latest monthly report put it at 15.9 million barrels a day. But even Opec's own market monitoring committee chairman, Dr Mana Said al-Otaibi, who has a vested interest in "talking up" demands, yesterday forecast that it would be no more than 16.5 million barrels a day.

According to MEES, Nigeria, Libya, Indonesia, Ecuador and the United Arab Emirates were all producing more than their agreed share, but their overproduction was to some extent offset by relatively low output in Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Qaudi Arabia, with a quota of 4.35 million bbl, was producing some 3.9 million and Iran 1.9 million (quota 2.3 million bbl). Now that so much Opec oil was effectively moving at market-related prices, tight control of volume was doubly important, the newsletter said. Egypt, which is not a member of Opec but until earlier this year tried to keep in step with the cartel, cut its price by 75 cents for May. It exports about a third of its output, which currently totals some 850,000 bbl.

Go-ahead sought for Stolport in London's docklands

By Michael Smith

Pressure is mounting on Environment Secretary Patricia Jenkin to give the long-awaited go-ahead for the development of a new mini airport in London's docklands.

Mr Jenkin is being pressed by Mowlem, the builders, Brymon Airways and the London Docklands Development Corporation to end two-and-a-half years of uncertainty and approve the £15 million airport, known as Stolport because it will use special short take-off and landing aircraft.

The last major hurdle was overcome last week when the Greater London Council and the London Borough of Newham decided not to appeal against a High Court ruling

blocking their plans to re-open the public inquiry.

Mr Jenkin has already given a clear indication that he supports the Stolport project and Philip Beck, chairman of Mowlem, yesterday said: "Kowlem's view today is no reason why planning permission should not be granted immediately."

Mr Beck said he was "extremely perturbed" about the time and expense of obtaining planning approval.

Mowlem's case is strongly supported by the London Docklands Development Corporation whose chief executive, Reg Ward, said: "Our planning for the regeneration of the dockland area relies heavily on a favourable decision for the Stolport."

Mr Jenkin is also being pressed by Brymon Airways, who are anxious to begin services from the 80 acre site of the former Royal Dock by October 1986. Brymon is awaiting Mr Jenkin's decision before investing £40 million in six new de Havilland Dash 7 short take-off and landing turbo prop aircraft.

It is estimated that the Stolport project will provide up to 600 direct and indirect jobs and the LDDC is hopeful that it will trigger off further important investment programmes in the docklands.

The Department of Environment said last night that Mr Jenkin was still considering the planning application decision.

Intasun takes over BP bank Global in £5m deal

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Global of London, the package holidays and coach tours operator, is being taken over by Mr Harry Goodman's Intasun Leisure Group in a deal expected to involve around £5 million.

Intasun, the co-try's second largest package tour company, has agreed to acquire the Global board immediately in the current summer season. But Mr Goodman and the group's managing director, Mr Peter Smith, are joining the Global board immediately to take charge of all forward planning.

Global has been part of the Great Universal Stores mail order and retailing empire for the past 28 years. Although the holiday company traded

profitably last year GUS recognised that because of a comparatively small number of air holidays it is not able to compete effectively with the major tour companies and has been looking to dispose of the business to a larger operator for some months. The sale comes against the background of a sharp drop in bookings for the holiday industry as a whole.

The acquisition will take Intasun into two new areas of operation — incoming tourism to Europe through Global's overseas coaching programme, and the domestic coaching market — and the addition of Global's package holiday capacity will lift the group still closer to the number one package holiday spot still occupied by Thomson.

BP bank

by John Hooper

BP said yesterday that it was looking in to the possibility of offering banking services to motorists by using its own funds. But before such a move could take place, BP Finance International, the company's "in-house bank" which was set up at the beginning of this year, would need to get the Bank of England to grant it the status of a Licensed Deposit Taker.

BP already runs an operation in Scotland, in association with the Clydesdale Bank, which enables motorists to pay for their petrol with a special credit card. The card can also be used to obtain cash at petrol stations.

These facilities are now available at 28 BP stations in Glasgow and Aberdeen, but they have never been tried out south of the border because, BP says, of difficulties peculiar to the banking system in England and Wales.

Going it alone would be one way round the problem. BP Oil's Marketing Director said: "If we can provide what are virtually drive-in banks, then it must be good for our own business," but a spokesman stressed that no decision had been taken to go ahead.

Wesco faces winding up

By Rosemary Collins

A company which advertised widely that it could supply new cars from abroad at substantially less than UK dealers' prices has been ordered to wind up petition after a Department of Trade and Industry investigation.

Wesco Ltd, of Liverpool, was investigated under Section 109 of the Companies Act 1967, a procedure which is ways carried out confidentially,

following complaints that cars for which deposits were paid were not delivered.

So far 300 customers have been identified, of whom more than a handful have received cars. The Official Receiver is acting as provisional liquidator until the hearing of the winding up petition, expected on June 10, and would like to hear from any other Wesco customers or suppliers.

Sizing up the software

By Peter Large

Technology Correspondent
The DIT's computer services industry grew by 20 per cent last year, producing a total turnover of £2.12 billion. Less than 10 per cent of those sales were in exports.

These are statistics, not necessarily facts. They come from the Department of Trade and Industry's latest, broader attempt to pinpoint the performance of this crucial sector of wealth creation — the output of the nation's 100,000 or so computer software professionals.

The first objection is that the DIT's figures relate only to software and service sales. Therefore, there has been no attempt to assess the overall software input in a wide range of British products, from pop-

up toasters to phone exchanges.

The DIT's statistics division also acknowledged yesterday that the figures blur even that restricted analysis — because they include the turnovers of computer services subsidiaries of big industrial groups, whose sales are often overwhelmingly within their parent group.

Third, the figures do not include the sales by separate overseas subsidiaries of British software houses. Despite those ambiguities, Dr Doug Eysencks, director-general of the industry's representative body, the Computing Services Association, said their own figures matched the estimate of a 20 per cent growth last year, though the DIT's overall total of sales was double reality and the true

rate of exports was between 13 and 14 per cent.

Dr Eysencks said the 20 per cent growth matched the performance of the US and the rest of Europe, though he agreed that UK firms are still behind the US in sales here of generalised software packages, a business growing by about 40 per cent a year.

The DIT has previously collected statistics only from the computer services industry's bigger firms, but this time it also made a sample survey across the many small software houses, estimated to total about 15,000. It found that about 30 per cent of firms regard manufacturing as their primary market, 20 per cent concentrate on the distributive trades, and 20 per cent on financial services.

Warning by NCC

By Rosemary Collins

THERE is a danger that the break up of trading standards departments now run by the metropolitan counties will lead to inconsistency of law enforcement, and poor value for money for taxpayers, the National Consumer Council chairman, Mr Michael Montague, warned yesterday.

He hoped that the Local Government Bill now being considered by the House of Lords, which would be amended to set up joint boards of trading standards services covering the present metropolitan county council areas. This was a suggestion first put up by the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, with which the NCC agreed, Mr Montague said.

The service deals with complex, technical matters. Combining means economies of scale. Duplication means resources wasted. Taxpayers and ratepayers will get better value for money from a trading standards service organised at county level."

Bank of Ireland
announces that with effect from close of business on the 24th April 1985 its base rate for lending is reduced from 13.5% to 12.75% per annum

Bank of Ireland

NATIONAL
Girobank

National Girobank announces

that with effect from close

of business 22nd April 1985

Base Rate

Its base rate was reduced

from 13% to 12½% per annum

10 Milk Street LONDON EC2V 8JH

Sotheby's makes a dazzling impression on New York

Donald Wintersgill on the auctioneers' battle over the Gould art collection

FLORENCE GOULD, an immensely wealthy American who lived in France, bequeathed her fortune to a charitable foundation when she died in 1983. Very soon Sotheby's and Christie's were competing fiercely with each other for the business of selling her jewels, furniture, silver, and pictures.

Sotheby's has carried away the prize, the collection of pictures which is being sold in New York today and tomorrow. It was a close-run thing.

Among the works are examples by Van Gogh, Renoir, Toulouse-Lautrec, Matisse, Gauguin, and Cézanne. Nobody knows how much they will fetch, but \$30 million to \$40 million might be a good guess.

Christie's won the first round in the battle for the Gould riches by winning the sale of her jewels. The auction was held in New York; but before that a selection was shown in London and six American cities.

It was during the show in London in January last year that a little local difficulty arose. Four armed men raided Christie's premises during the public viewing, smashed showcases, grabbed jewellery, and made off with some but not all of the loot was from the Gould collection. A reward of £1 million was offered but the raiders were never caught.

The auction was held in New York and was a success. A collection of sapphires and diamonds fetched £918,666. The biggest of the sapphires, called the Blue Princess, is of more than 114 carats, and is the size of a 10p piece. It is one of three belonging to an Indian maharaja. The sale, in April last year, brought in £5,620,000. All New York attended, to see and be seen. Christie's had six parties before the auction.

Bringing in the rich socialites to see like this is one of the tools of marketing. But now it was Sotheby's turn.

Sotheby's won from the trustees of Mrs Gould's estate the business of selling the furniture, silver, and other trinkets from her villa near Cannes, called El Patio.

A suitable place for the auction was Monaco because Mrs Gould was a great hostess on the Riviera as well as in Paris. Again, glittering parties were held before the auction. The furniture and so forth — not of the highest quality — fetched a total of £4,820,000; another success.

But at this point the big question was still in the air — which firm would sell the pictures? Rumours abounded about the collection — that it was worth £100 million; that Mrs Gould had bought many of the works, direct from the artists' studios. The truth was not quite so dramatic.

The collection does include some very great works but it also includes some dull ones. Most of it was assembled comparatively late in Mrs Gould's life.

Both Sotheby's and Christie's put detailed proposals to the trustees of the estate, the most influential of whom appears to have been John Gould, partner in Mrs Gould's American firm of lawyers.

The president and chief executive officer of Sotheby's, Mr Michael L. Ansley, tells Sotheby's side of what happened. "We wanted to assert our position in the market place," he says. Sotheby's had been through a bad patch, with losses, sackings of hundreds of staff, and a takeover by Mr Alfred Taubman and other wealthy American businessmen.

But Sotheby's was on its feet again. Mr Ansley says: "We offered to show the Gould pictures in London and other European cities as well as in New York, so that plenty of potential buyers could see them."

"We said that we would hold the auction in April, not in May, with other Impressionist auctions. We could have held it at the same time as other Impressionist sales and that would have been a benefit for us — the Gould pictures would have been a bait for owners of other pictures to send them to us. It's the cost-cutting or piggyback effect."

That decision took courage.



Toulouse-Lautrec's *La Clouneuse Cha-U-Kao* is expected to fetch between \$2.5 million and \$3.5 million

"And we set aside an entire gallery in our New York premises for six weeks for viewing of the pictures. People can be there alone for hours in peace and quiet."

These are not the only considerations. Auctioneers generally make their income in two ways — commission of 10 per cent from the seller and commission or "buyer's premium" of 10 per cent from the buyer.

But to gain really valuable collections for sale the auctioneers are prepared to charge no seller's commission at all and to rely only on the buyer's premium. It is fairly certain that Sotheby's are not charging the Gould executors a penny.

Another financial consideration may have come in. The art market will be awash with goods between the end of April and the end of June, perhaps \$125 million worth. To digest all that without a hiccup might not be easy. Sotheby's, therefore, came

out with a scheme to expand its usual credit terms to buyers, which are 90 days for approved people (with interest).

Buyers at the Gould sale are being offered a year's credit, with interest on half the purchase price. The loans will be to blue chip clients and old clients, not to "investors". Interest will be charged at between the US prime rate and prime plus 3 per cent. The interest is tax deductible.

Sotheby's won the day, but Christie's offered very similar terms, all equally seductive, on all the points except perhaps holding the sale on its own in April. When the negotiations were going on, Christie's was expanding its premises in New York and could not guarantee that the work would be done on schedule.

Christie's and others in the art market are dismissive of Sotheby's financing scheme — half of the price on the nail, the other half on the never-never.

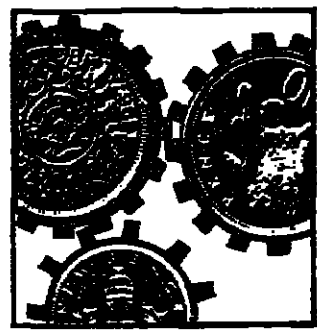
One dealer says: "Borrowing implies that the buyer can't afford to pay straight off. Are these the people you want to have? But if Christie's were approached for some kind of long-term finance, and if the buyer was financially sound, no doubt Christie's could arrange something."

The marketing by Sotheby's of the Gould collection is effervescent. All sorts of parties, lunches, and dinners have been thrown. All New York wants to attend the sale. New York loves the social prestige and the glamour that surround a "event like this."

And Sotheby's expenses have been big too — in advertising, insurance, printing, and entertainment. The final bill is likely, according to the American magazine *Art and Auction*, to be well over \$1 million. But Sotheby's is bound to make a sound profit, and it is bound to have gained in the long battle for business and status.

Time is running out for Lawson's inflation plan

Andrew Tylecote outlines how the Chancellor's strategy may rebound



ECONOMICS AGENDA

THIS government takes enormous pride in its scorn for cheap, short-term popularity. Previous governments knew what had to be done and started doing it, but chickened out when they saw the unemployment figures rising and an election looming. Not this one — "lady's not for turning".

How would the British public feel if they found that they had been fooled — that the truth was just the other way about: it was the gains, such as they were, which were short-term, and the losses which would endure and multiply? The only tangible achievement of this government, the fall in the inflation rate, results from aspects of its deflationary policies which are inevitably transient.

A recession causes businesses, much against their will, to accumulate stocks of unsold goods, to put workers short-time working or at least cut back their overtime, and to run well below full-capacity working. All these changes strengthen employers in their bargaining with unions, and it is they, much more than rising unemployment, which account for the slowing down of wage increases which almost always happens in recessions.

But of course sooner or later (and the sooner the better from most points of view) those unsold stocks will be sold off, normal rates of overtime working will be resumed, and excess plant capacity either brought back into use, or scrapped. Such a return to normality used to take place through deflation and relatively quickly; under this government it has taken place without deflation and more slowly, through mass redundancies and factory closures, with all the pain and waste which that implies; but it has been happening none the less, and is now nearly complete.

The fact that this time "normality" is accompanied by much unemployment makes much less difference than is generally supposed: employers have to bargain with the people in work, not those out of work, and while those in work may be made more "moderate" in their pay demands by the fear of unemployment, on the other hand they are made less moderate by the extra burden of taxes they have to carry because of that same unemployment.

What does make a great deal of difference, much more than is generally supposed, is the exchange rate. It is the fact that exchange rates now float, and tend to float up, when economies are deflated, which largely accounts for this government's persistence in its policies, and its survival.

When it came in, it imposed a harsh monetary squeeze which drove up interest rates: that (and North Sea oil which we shall come back to in a moment) pushed up the exchange rate to a level which was crippling for much of British industry, but kept down prices — not only of imports, but

of British goods which had to compete with them. It was this which made the Thatcher deflation quite a pleasant experience for many of those who were lucky enough to keep their jobs — unlike previous deflations, in the days when exchange rates were (more or less) fixed, which were all loss, and no gain to anybody. But no more than any of the other apparent benefits, can such a rise in exchange rate last: what goes up must come down, once the "overvalued" country's industrial base has been eroded enough to cause a balance of payments deficit in spite of the deflation.

This of course is where North Sea oil comes in: it has made such a huge contribution to the balance of payments that for a long time it has counterbalanced even the near collapse of British manufacturing. Now, however, that we have not only a rapidly widening deficit on manufacturing trade, but a growing threat of a fall in the oil price, sterling is once again very vulnerable.

Why should this be a such a threat? Surely the pound has fallen a long way, against the dollar at least, without any more than a hiccup in the inflation figures?

There is a common misunderstanding here: it is believed that in the exchange rate to be most feared is that against the dollar, because raw material prices are set in dollars, while a fall vis-à-vis the German mark, or the yen, would be a good thing, since they are our main competitors at home and abroad. So, since we have had a lot of what was most feared, very little of what we wanted, we have probably touched bottom, and things can only get better.

But let us look closer. First, raw material prices may be expressed in dollars, but that does not mean much: in current weak world markets, when the dollar rises against other currencies, the dollar prices of commodities have to fall in order to maintain demand; and that is what has happened. Second, we may well look forward to a fall vis-à-vis the Western European and Japanese currencies, since it was the corresponding rise, after 1972, that drove so much of British industry out of business; but we must recognise the "flip-side."

We now import much of our manufactures from these countries, without the option of switching back to our own domestic products: so when

they raise their prices we must pay the increase; and when the pound falls against those currencies, that is what will happen. But that is not all: the surviving British companies compete, at home and abroad, not against each other, so much as against European and Japanese firms: as the pound falls, vis-à-vis those currencies, British firms will have the chance to raise their own prices; and they will.

Not only prices: wages, too. For in manufacturing industry, these last few years, largely by the knowledge — now shared by union officials and shop stewards — that an overvalued pound gave no room to raise costs any further, against foreign competition. Overvaluation weakened unions' bargaining position and stiffened management's. That is the only respect in which the wage bargaining scene is not yet back to "normal."

End the overvaluation and we are back, in that sense, to pre-Thatcher normality — to the long-term prospect of rebuilding our industry, and the immediate certainty of strong and healthy earnings on wages. I have found that for every 10 per cent improvement in British competitiveness in price and costs, there was a 4 per cent increase in real earnings in manufacturing — and that was after allowing for the effect of retail price rises.

The pound, as we all know, is now a "petro-currency" because of the North Sea oil. But it is also a petro-currency vis-à-vis the Japanese, Germans, French etc because they (unlike the Americans) are large oil importers, and stand to gain a great deal by a fall in the oil price. Should the price of oil fall, then, the pound will fall, and their currencies will rise: against the pound they will rise a long way. They would have risen against it quite a long way already, but for the high interest rate policy in Britain.

And what has been keeping the oil price up? The CEEB's extra oil burn helped during the coal strike and that is now over; but the main factors are fast growth in the US economy, which has been buoying up world demand, and the Gulf War, which has kept some Iranian oil and more Iraqi oil off the market. Lose one of these props and the oil price will fall; lose both, and it will probably plummet.

Andrew Tylecote is the author of *The Causes of the Present Inflation*, published by Macmillan at £5.95.

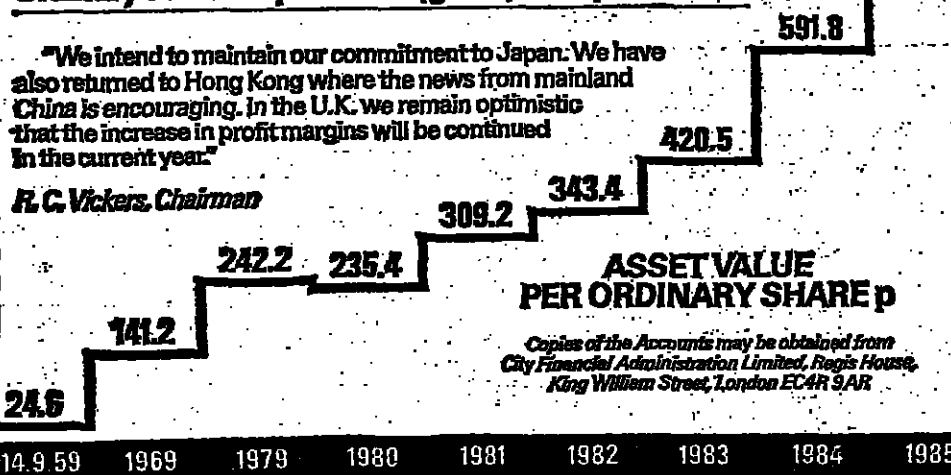
"Investing in Success" Equities Plc

Highlights of the year ended 31 January, 1985

Total assets £43,312,008 + 7.6%

Net asset value per share 675p + 14.0%

Ordinary dividend per share (gross) 7.80p + 2.6%



"We intend to maintain our commitment to Japan. We have also returned to Hong Kong where the news from mainland China is encouraging. In the U.K. we remain optimistic that the increase in profit margins will be continued in the current year."

R.C. Vickers, Chairman

ASSET VALUE PER ORDINARY SHARE p

Copies of the Accounts may be obtained from City Financial Administration Limited, Regis House, King William Street, London EC4R 9AR

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND CHEMICAL AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

NATIONAL OIL WELL COMPANY (ENTREPRISE NATIONALE DES TRAVAUX AUX Puits)

INTERNATIONAL CALL TO TENDER NUMBER 9136-AY/MEC

The National Oil Well Company is launching a National and International Call To Tender, open to all competitors for the provision of:

FORKLIFT TRUCKS SUITABLE FOR USE ON ALL TYPES OF TERRAIN — TYPE 4 x 4 — LOADED CAPACITY 15 TONNES

Those Tenderers who are interested by this Invitation To Tender may obtain specifications of payment of the sum of 400 Algerian Dinars, from the following address:

Entreprise Nationale des Travaux aux Puits, 16, Route de Meftah, Oued Smar, El Harrach, Alger, Algeria, Direction des Approvisionnements, as from the publication of this notice.

Tenders drawn up in five (5) copies must be sent in a double sealed and registered packet to the Secretariat of the Direction Approvisionnement to the address mentioned above.

The outer envelope must be anonymous, with no marking except the following endorsement: "Appel a la Concurrence International Numero 9136-AY/MEC — Confidential — A Ne Pas Ouvrir."

The Tenders must arrive within 45 days of the first publication of this notice.

The option period shall be 180 days as from the closing date of the Open Invitation to Tender.

Bejewelled founder of Riviera society

FLORENCE GOULD was a great collector of furniture, silver, books, Impressionist and later works of art and jewels. The Shah of Iran once said that her collection of jewels was the only one to rival his. She wore them constantly — at breakfast, on the back of an elephant when on holiday in Cambodia, writes Donald Wintersgill.

She was a grande dame of society on the Riviera and French intellectual life. She was half French and half American, and she bequeathed the bulk of her fortune to a foundation to further Franco-American understanding.

Florence Gould's father was a Frenchman who made a fortune in the United States as a publisher. She was born in San Francisco and trained to be a singer. Her first marriage ended in divorce: she then married, as his third wife, Frank Jay Gould, son of Jay Gould.

Jay Gould made an immense fortune from railroads, the Western Union telegraph company, and the New York elevated railroad, but Frank Jay Gould was ostracised by polite society in the United States because of his sexual peccadilloes with

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND CHEMICAL AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

NATIONAL OIL WELL COMPANY

(ENTREPRISE NATIONALE DES TRAVAUX AUX Puits)

INTERNATIONAL CALL TO TENDER

NUMBER 0751-1K/MEC

The National Oil Well Company is launching a national and international call to tender open to all competitors for the provision of:

FILTERS (Various Types)

Those tenderers who are interested by this invitation to tender may obtain specifications on payment of the sum of 400 Algerian dinars, from the following address:

ENTREPRISE NATIONALE DES TRAVAUX AUX Puits — 16, ROUTE DE MEFTAH — OUED SMAR — EL HARRACH — ALGER — ALGERIA — DIRECTION DES APPROVISIONNEMENTS — AS FROM THE PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

Tenders drawn up in five (5) copies must be sent in a double sealed and registered packet to the Secretariat of the Direction Approvisionnement to the address mentioned above.

The outer envelope must be anonymous, with no marking except the following endorsement: "APPEL A LA CONCURRENCE OUVERT NATIONAL ET INTERNATIONAL NO. 0751/1K/MEC — CONFIDENTIEL A NE PAS OUVRIR."

The tenders must arrive within 45 days of the first publication of this notice.

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Microlease explains

Microlease explains

Since announcing a rise in profits from £582,000 to £703,000 for the year to February, Mr David Rennie, chairman of the USM-quoted electronic equipment renter Microlease has seen the shares in his company plunge 65p to 440p. Although they were back up to 350p yesterday he felt moved to issue a further statement on the group which got

the second six months. Also in the third quarter had been flat contrary to the experience in previous years. Sales had not recovered until the New Year.

Christmas had been particularly valuable with more equipment returned than the group had previously experienced.

What pleased the market, however, was his statement that income in the first month of the current trading year was substantially increased and that the present order intake is the highest "in the life of the company".

Mr Rennie is confident that

Boustead cuts losses

The board says that losses in the Australian operation and the UK soft commodity business were the major factors in the loss. The Singapore engineering operations achieved "significant" turnaround and Rich Monde made "excellent profits" and retained its market lead.

At King Trailers the board said naturally made management changes while accounting controls have been strengthened. The auditors have made

Formal future

The message from Solihull is that formal wear is coming back. Manny Silverman, the chief executive of Moss Bros, the dress hire market leader, says that a pilot scheme being run by the group in Solihull specialising solely in formal wear is going well. Another is to open in Guildford, and although the venture does not



Manny Silverman

No US injection

Details of the New York operation of Good Relations Group, the nation's only fully quoted PR and advertising group, had no effect on the group's share price which stayed at \$206 yesterday.

The new US company is to start trading from May 1 as Good Relations Inc., but in the form of Cullen & Casey it will already have been trading for three years. Good Relations is buying 100,000 shares for \$200,000 in shares and is retaining the management, and hopefully the clients, to form the nucleus of its US business.

C & C made a profit of \$70,500 in the eight months to January 31 and had assets of \$135,600. Karon Cullen the chairman is warranting net as-

On the USM trail

Barclays says that Wyco will be worth around £12 million at its placing price of 68p. The placing of 4.3 million shares will raise £700,000 of new money. Some 75 per cent of the equity will stay in the hands of the board, which says that profits for the year which ends this month will be £1.8 million — a rise of about 70 per cent.

In short . . .

BABCOCK INTERNATIONAL has bought the US New Axia Holding Corporation for \$25.5 million cash. The company is one of the world's biggest makers of casters and also makes furniture fittings and chair tilt mechanisms. Its profits last year were \$7.87 million.

CLEMENT CLARKE'S profits dipped from £2.1 million to £1.3 million in 1984 but the dividend is raised from 4.06p to 4.33p.

**Edited by
Tony May**

Investors wait for new lead on interest rates

THE MARKETS

THE OFFER for sale of "quality homes" builder Persimmon was 2.3 times oversubscribed. Employees will get all the shares they asked for, so will employees for 200 to 1,000 shares. Otherwise the basis of allotment is: 1,300 to 5,000 shares—60 per cent (minimum of 1,000); 5,000 to 11,000 shares—50 per cent (minimum of 3,000); 12,000 and up—38 per cent (minimum of 5,500).

overnight levels. Shorts were an eighth or so easier. Mediums and longs registered scattered improvements of an eighth. ICI, where brokers have lately reduced their estimates to around £280 million for the first quarter, lost 7p to 767p.

In dull shipping Ocean Transport weakened 3p more to 180p after the P & O chairman had dampened takeover speculation at Monday's annual meeting. The Stockley terms for acquiring the 23 per cent stake in Stock Conversion, previously held by Equity Trust, did little for the property sector. Stock Conversion dipped 8p to 485p, while Stockley eased 2p to 75p.

The setback in commodity prices due to the surplus of poor quality tea hit the shares concerned where frequent falls to 10p occurred. Gold shares dropped \$2-4 behind the lower bullion price.

Industrial leaders down in a band of 10p to 13p were BICC, 233p, BP, 535p, and Glaxo, 1,182p. Stores were in retreat. Woolworths fell 12p to 822p.

Speculative buying lifted East Midland Allied "A" 5p to 128p, Burgess Products 6p to 166p, Marling 4p to 86p, and Princess of Wales Hotels 6p

to 108p. Demand in a restricted market hoisted Canadian Associated Cinemas from £14.50 to £17. Fears of a Monopolies reference for the Scottish & Newcastle bid lowered Matthew Brown 7p to 388p. Intasun added 2p to 120p on the acquisition of Global Tours from Great Universal Stores.

Trebled profits at Klark Teknik had been discounted, hence a fall of 7p to 143p. Teas reflected a lower commodity price, Eastern Produce dipping 10p to 338p. Two new comers yesterday caused little excitement. Electron Houses started 4p above the placing price at 121p, while Maximprint were finally matching the 28s

Main changes: BCI 475p down 10p; Thorn EMI 422p down 12p; Rowntree 416p up 11p; ICI 767p down 7p; Oceanic Transport 180p down 8p; Stock Conversion 485p down 8p; British Aerospace 403p down 15p; Lanca 280p down 40p.

COMMODITIES

Copper: Cash £1,216.50 per tonne, three months £1,171.50 per tonne.
 Tin: Cash £9,240 per tonne, three months £9,230 per tonne.
 Lead: Cash £310.50 per tonne, three months £309.50 per tonne.
 Zinc: Cash £704 per tonne, three months £702 per tonne.
 Silver: Spot 502b per troy oz, three months 502b.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE

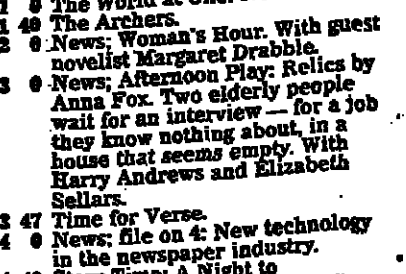
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TUDYNE 10-10-0
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BBC-1

39 Morning Story: Isabella J. ...
 40 Marge Blaine.
 41 Daily Service.
 42 News: Three Hundred Years a
 43 Soldier. Story of "Our Royal
 44 Regiment of Fuzileers."
 45 English Now. Can you improve
 your status by improving your
 English?
 46 News: You and Yours.
 47 The Meisterspringer. Thriller
 serial by Berkely Mather (1).
 48



4 40 Story Time Remembe

6 0 The Six O'Clock News.
6 30 After Henry. Comedy series (2).
7 0 News; The Archers.
7 20 Checkpoint.
7 45 Groundswell. Environment
issues.
8 15 In Business. Commerce magazine
on Garden Centres.
8 45 Between Earth and Sky. Rural
life in Victorian England.
Delish's Report

30 went from the mortuary on tales teeth
can tell.
9 45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
8 15 A Book at Bedtime: A Moveable
Feast by Ernest Hemingway (6).
0 30 The World Tonight.
1 15 The Financial World Tonight.
1 30 Today in Parliament.
2 0 News; weather; shipping.
THU. 11-12 0 Schools. 1 55 PM

Listening Corner. 2 03-5 School
 Study on 4. 11 30-12 10 am Open
 University.
 Wales (24am): 4 0 am As Radio 2. 6 25
 Nelson Roberts. 7 35 am 10 3 Mike
 Flinn. 11 00 That's How It Was. 12 30
 Meet For Lunch. 1 40 Catchphrase 1.
 4 45 The Russell Grant Show. 5 50 As
 Gardening. 6 40 Catch-Five. 7 55
 Radio 4. 7 0 Four-Five-Six. 8 45 As
 Radio 4. 9 00 am Wales. 9 45 As Radio
 1. 9 45 Interlude. 9 55-4 0 am As Radio
 2.
 10 55-11 55 weather. Gwylwr

Radio 4, 8, 25 Helo Babel 9, 5 Aor Goy A
Cwadv. 10 2 Galw Alun. 71 01 Newyddion
Dy. 11 10 Stondin Dyddodid. 12 1 am.
Talwyn y Beirdd. 1 0 0 Cwadr 1 Glawr.
Gwyf i'r Maelwr. 4 5 0 Cwadr 1 Glawr.
1 6 Gweler Radio 4, 5 0 Post Frynhaen.
1 6 Gweler Wales. 4 5 0 Gweler Radio 4.
10 15 Newyddian: Ar Hyd y Nos 1 30
Open University 12 10 am-Close Gweler
Radio 4.

World Service

Four Hours, 7 30 Report on Religion.
7 45 That's Thee. 8 0 News. 8 9
Reflections. 8 15 Classical Record
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8 45 Look Ahead. 9 0 News. 9 15
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Roundup. 1 0 News. 1 15 Twenty-four
Hours. 1 30 British Farms. 2 0
Religion. 2 15

Radio Newswear, 3 15 The Pleasures of Seeking, 3 34 Yes Minister, 4 0 News, 4 3 Commentary, 4 35 Counterpoint, 4 45 The Day, 5 0 News, 5 9 A Letter from Walrus, 5 15 Monitor, 5 25 New Ideas, 5 40 Book Choice, 5 55 Waveguide, 6 0 News, 6 15 International Soccer Special, 6 15 News, 6 25 The World, 6 30 A Letter from Walrus, 6 40 Financial News, 6 45 Reflections, 6 55 Sports Roundup, 6 55 News, 6 59 Commentary, 6 59 15 Good Books, 6 59 Top Twenty, 6 59 News, 6 59 an Interview with the Author, 6 59 News, 6 59 12-36 Yes Minister, 6 59 News, 6 59 Outlook, 6 59

1 30 Waveguide, 1 40 Book Chunks, 4 43
Monitor, 2 0 News, 2 0 Reichs Press
Review, 2 15 Network, UK, 2 30 Asson-
ment, 3 0 News, 3 0 News About Britain,
3 15 The World Today, 3 30 A Word in
Edgeways, 4 0 Newsdesk, 4 30 International
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